



## Beirut negotiators await Israeli withdrawal pledge

**BEIRUT (R)** — Artillery duels often devastate parts of South Lebanon as guerrillas harass Israeli troops on the Middle East's last battle line, but the Beirut government seems in no rush to speed up peace talks that could send the Israelis packing.

While Israel signed an autonomy deal with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) last year and Jordan is making strides towards peace, the Lebanese-Israeli truce has been frozen for months.

Just as Syria is seeking an Israeli pledge to pull out of the Golan Heights before there can be a breakthrough in peace talks, Beirut demands an Israeli commitment to withdraw from South Lebanon before it will discuss ways and means to peace.

When U.S. Ambassador Mark Hambly asked Lebanese President Elias Hrawi this month to raise the level of peace talks to foreign minister level, Mr. Hrawi refused, Lebanese sources said.

Last week, when U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher repeated the request to Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad, he replied that both Syria and Lebanon would consider raising the level of their delegations only when there was progress on the two tracks, the sources said.

Mr. Assad, whose 35,000

troops in Lebanon make him the country's ultimate power broker, personally asked Mr. Christopher for an Israeli commitment to withdraw from its occupation zone in South Lebanon and the Bekaa Valley.

The Syrian president promised that once the pledge was made he would ask Mr. Hrawi to form a joint Lebanese-Israeli military committee to work out security measures safeguarding northern Israel against guerrilla attack, and a reasonable timetable for an Israeli pull-out.

Israel's repeated demands in the past for formation of the committee have met Lebanese demands for an Israeli commitment to withdraw.

Each time, the Israelis repeat that they will make the commitment once Beirut disbands the Hezbollah group whose 2,000 Iranian-trained and equipped guerrillas harass its troops daily in South Lebanon.

Israel says it will take the next step in peace negotiations only after that, when the frontier zone has been quiet for six months.

Lebanon replies that Hezbollah has a perfect right to resist occupation.

Because of the deadlock, Mr. Christopher has not bothered to visit Lebanon on his last three Middle East

swings. But on Saturday, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al-Shara came to Beirut to tell Lebanese officials that this time Mr. Assad and Mr. Christopher discussed the Lebanese truce at length.

According to Lebanese sources, Mr. Assad told Mr. Christopher that if there is peace between Syria, Lebanon and Israel, Syria and Lebanon will sign together. He said neither country will sign before the other.

Beirut's bottom line is the land-for-peace principle on which the Middle East peace process was launched at the Madrid conference in December 1991.

And the basis for that, Lebanese officials say, is an Israeli commitment to abide by U.N. Security Council Resolution 425, which demands its unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon.

Once that is done, Lebanon says there will be no problem in disbanding Hezbollah and establishing security on the frontier.

"The day Israel accepts the principle of withdrawal, this resistance will have no more cause and the Lebanese government will have all normal authority to implement security in the whole of South Lebanon," a senior Lebanese official told Reuters recently.

"There is a Lebanese commitment to that."



An Israeli water skier waves an Israeli and a Jordanian flag during a nautical peace happening in the Red Sea Monday. A flotilla of some 20 small crafts covered in Israeli and

Jordanian flags sailed from the Israeli resort of Eilat to the Jordanian territorial waters to celebrate the Israeli-Jordanian summit (AFP photo)

## Jordanians jubilant over summit

By Jamal Halaby  
The Associated Press

**AMMAN** — Ululation filled the air when televisions broadcast live images of King Hussein exchanging warm handshakes and back-pats in a White House ceremony with the leader of Israel, Jordan's enemy for nearly half a century.

The fervour appeared a setback to expectations of Muslim fundamentalists and other peace opponents that King Hussein had gone too far and too quickly for his subjects.

"Does the declaration mean that I can visit Israel next month?" asked Amal Baidoun, 26, a kindergarten teacher, as she watched TV at her luxurious apartment in Amman's suburb.

"This should have taken place fifty years ago," said Eid Marji, 45, an Amman bookshop salesman, who also watched King Hussein and

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin end the state of belligerency that has existed between their countries since 1948.

"This will lead to security and prosperity for us," he said, reflecting a widespread belief that a settlement with Israel will activate Jordan's stagnant economy, straining under \$6.6 billion foreign debt accumulated in the 1980s.

Saud Zubidei, 32, a contractor, said: "Our King's courageous decision to meet with Rabin is an effort that he should be thanked for."

"He knows best what is good for his people and his nation and he has our full support," added Mr. Zubidei.

"Mr. Zubidei's reaction was shared by many who see King Hussein as a saviour who oversees Jordan's development into a relatively prosperous and cosmopolitan nation from a backward, resource-poor land of nomads."

The Hussein-Rabin meeting appeared to have also drawn emotional reactions from the Kingdom's elderly.

Restaurant owner Nayef Kawash, 78, said it was the best thing he'd ever witnessed.

"We suffered a lot from wars and it is time for the young generation to enjoy the fruits of peace," he said in tears as he sat in his chair taking an order from a customer.

Despite the jubilation, some Jordanians were cautious about the fallout from the White House meeting.

"I do not know what to say," said Osama Shasha, 50, a trader, after pausing for a few minutes. "Are we going to see real peace or one that carries seeds of failure?"

Azzam Masri, 45, manager of Safeway stores grocery, was pragmatic in his viewpoint.

"What choice do we have?" he said. "The state of no-war, no peace wasn't good."

## ... but also unsure of peace benefits

By Suleiman Al Khalidi  
Reuter

**AMMAN** — A subdued and resigned Jordanian public watched the Washington summit on television on Monday, anxious for peace but sceptical about whether Israel will withdraw from occupied lands.

An Egyptian trade delegation is to visit Iraq in the next few days for the first time since the 1990-91 Gulf crisis, Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported.

The delegation, made up of representatives from private and public companies, will discuss the export of priority products to Iraq, the agency said in a report from Baghdad.

The cost of the exports will be charged to Iraqi accounts frozen abroad, it said.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak made repeated appeals for an end to "the Iraqi people's suffering" in the past few months.

intentions. Some were uncompromising.

Assistant pharmacist Iman Atta called the Washington declaration "just a cover for Israeli interests with Arab help." Merchant Ali Jibril said he believed Israel still "deals with the logic of force."

Others were willing to give the new peace a chance after nearly a half century of conflict.

"I have doubts about Israel's intentions, but if they withdraw from some of our lands we will be ready to coexist with them," said 45-year-old office worker Ibrahim Abdul Hadi.

The enthusiasm seen in Washington was replaced in Amman by acceptance that Jordan and other Arab states could not defeat Israel on the battlefield and it was time to make peace.

"We have been fighting since 1948 without achieving anything and if we continue wars we cannot beat Israel," said Majid Hamid, an unemployed labourer watching state television's live coverage of the landmark summit.

"Let us breathe air and enjoy peace like everyone else," Mr. Hamid said in the Kamel coffee shop, glancing at the television as he played cards with his friends. "We ought to have reached this peace 20 years ago."

Many saw the summit as the only option left to an Arab state with little military power and under intense U.S. pressure to end a state of war that has existed since the creation of Israel in 1948.

"The peace on offer was the only choice to bring prosperity but it was not the peace we wanted to restore full rights," said Abdullah Hijazi, owner of a downtown coffee shop.

"This peace will reduce tension, but there will never be an end to the religious division between us and the Jews," he said. "They may come as tourists like the rest but we can never make real friends with them."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Gaza has new municipal council

**GAZA CITY (AFP)** — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has appointed Gaza City's first municipal council, after months of wrangling over the participation of Islamic fundamentalist factions and other groups opposed to his autonomy agreement with Israel. The new council is composed of ten non-partisan technocrats and is to start operating shortly, Awni Shawa, council head, said Tuesday. He said he will continue efforts to bring representatives of the four main opposition groups, including the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas and Islamic Jihad. "For functional purposes, I prefer independents, but we have to have all the political factions to make our job easier," Shawa, an economist, told AFP. "The new council will start functioning as of tomorrow," he said, adding that its first task will be to assess the needs of the city, especially its run-down public services.

### Observers prepare to leave Hebron

**HEBON (AFP)** — International observers are preparing to leave the massacre town of Hebron on Aug. 8 in the absence of an Israeli accord to extend their mission to boost security for Palestinians. "This is the right decision, that we are going home," said Bjarne Sorensen, spokesman for the Temporary International Presence in Hebron. "We have built a relationship between the Israeli authorities and the Palestinians in the city which can continue after we have left. They are the best people to solve the problems, the complexities of the religions here, the mosque and the settlements." The 116 observers from Norway, Italy and Denmark were deployed on May 8 after a Jewish settler slaughtered more than 30 Muslims in the occupied town on Feb. 29. Israel reluctantly agreed to the mission which the Palestinians demanded as protection for the 120,000 inhabitants, but the terms of reference ruled out any policing role. The observers decided against carrying pistols and when the army declared curfew they were not even allowed out.

### Egyptian police arrest militant group

**CAIRO (R)** — Egyptian police in southern Cairo arrested a group of militants who were planning to kill police officers and other prominent people, security sources said on Tuesday. Police found weapons and explosives on members of the group, which was based in the southeastern suburb of Helwan. The sources gave no other details of the case, such as the size of the group or when police arrested them. The Egyptian authorities say they are winning the war against militants trying to overthrow the government. The militant groups have been relatively inactive since police killed militant leader Talaat Yassin Hammam in a raid on a Cairo flat three months ago.

### Iran, Turkey to boost cooperation

**NICOSIA (AP)** — Turkey promised Tuesday it would prohibit exiled Iranian dissidents use of its territory for activities against Iran, but added it expected Tehran to reciprocate by acceding Kurdish rebels the same treatment. President Suleyman Demirel said in Tehran that "the enemies of the Iranian nation will not be permitted to use Turkish territory against neighbouring Iran, and we have the same expectation from Iran." Mr. Demirel, who was meeting with Iran's spiritual leader, Mr. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said there was "no mistrust between Iran and Turkey," Tehran Radio reported. The broadcast quoted Ayatollah Khamenei as saying that "Iran believes that the two countries can create a friendly and trusting atmosphere in bilateral ties by preempting the activities of their enemies in each other's territories." Mr. Demirel, who arrived in Tehran Monday for a three-day official visit, said that he had come to Iran to "review bilateral relations and to boost them," the radio reported. His trade, as well as regional and international issues, were on the agenda of his talks in Iran.

### Iraq denies holding Iranian PoWs

**NICOSIA (AP)** — Iraq on Tuesday denied Iranian accusations that it was holding more than 30,000 Iranian prisoners of war (PoWs) and countercharged that Iran wanted to keep Iraqi prisoners locked up, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the International Committee of the Red Cross would confirm that all Iranians captured during the 1980-1988 war had been freed, according to INA monitored in Cyprus. The chairman of Iran's PoW commission, Mohammad Ali Nazarwan, said on July 13 that Tehran had proof Iraq was holding 31,778 Iranian prisoners, including 16,000 in secret camps. Mr. Nazarwan also denied Baghdad's earlier charges that Iran holds 20,000 Iraqi PoWs. He said 10,000 former Iraqi prisoners had sought political asylum in Iran and 1,722 others had been listed as PoWs. The dispute over the PoWs and missing in action poses a major hurdle to improving relations between the former foes.

### Manila to complain to S. Arabia about contracts

**MANILA (AP)** — The Philippine government is to complain to the Saudi Arabian authorities about Filipino workers who are given different contracts when they arrived in the kingdom, the Foreign Department said Monday. In a report to the foreign affairs department, Philippine envoy to Saudi Arabia Romulo Espaldon said workers arrived to be forced by employers to sign new contracts which "indiscriminately" reduced salaries. The substitute documents also entailed work conditions different from those originally stated, he added. He said most of the contracts failed to make provisions for medical treatment; the repatriation of remains in case of death, and periods of long separation. The labour department estimated there are 600,000 Filipinos employed in Saudi Arabia, most of them as domestic helpers or construction workers.

### HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amsterdam ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus ... 5:00 p.m. every Monday  
Arr. Damascus ... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday  
Arr. Amsterdam ... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

### DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

16:30 ... Rome (RJ)  
17:15 ... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
17:35 ... Berlin, London (RJ)  
12:00 ... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
12:40 ... Istanbul (RJ)  
20:30 ... Colombo (RJ)  
20:35 ... Beirut (RJ)  
20:45 ... Aqaba, Cairo (RJ)  
21:05 ... Riyadh (RJ)  
21:10 ... New Delhi (RJ)  
22:00 ... Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)  
22:30 ... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

### ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 ... Jeddah (RJ)  
09:30 ... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
10:30 ... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)  
15:20 ... Algiers (AF)  
18:25 ... Paris, Damascus (AF)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:55 ... Beirut, Paris (AF)  
09:15 ... Beirut (ME)  
11:30 ... Riyadh (SV)  
12:10 ... Rome (AZ)  
02:15 ... Larnaca (CY)  
06:40 ... Beirut (RJ)  
01:20 ... Cairo (RJ)  
13:00 ... Jeddah (SV)  
14:00 ... Brussels, Geneva (RJ)  
14:10 ... Toronto, Montreal (RJ)  
15:25 ... Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)  
19:30 ... Rome (RJ)  
00:40 ... Beirut (RJ)  
01:20 ... Cairo (RJ)  
13:00 ... Jeddah (SV)  
14:00 ... Cairo (MS)  
14:05 ... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (PK)  
15:05 ... Karachi, Abu Dhabi (PK)  
15:20 ... Algiers (AF)  
18:25 ... Paris, Damascus (AF)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price is for kg per kg.  
Apple ..... 600 500  
Banana ..... 600 600  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 200 120  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 200 120  
Carrot ..... 140 / 80  
Cabbage ..... 240 / 180  
Cauliflower ..... 200 120  
Onion (large) ..... 90 / 50  
Onion (small) ..... 200 120  
Eggs ..... 180 100  
Figs ..... 560 480  
Garlic ..... 800 600  
Grapes ..... 400 / 300  
Lemon ..... 600 500  
Marrow (large) ..... 600 500  
Marrow (small) ..... 320 / 220  
Mukhalish ..... 140 / 80  
Okra ..... 900 800  
Orange ..... 500 400  
Onion (dry) ..... 240 / 160  
Sweet Melon ..... 200 / 150  
Tomato (sweet) ..... 280 / 200  
Potato ..... 260 / 180  
Peaches ..... 420 / 300  
Tomato ..... 700 / 600  
String beans ..... 350 / 250  
Watermelon ..... 120 / 70

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

17:00 ..... Ordy (R)  
17:30 ..... N.B.A. sport  
18:30 ..... News in French  
19:00 ..... Le Journal De L'Historie  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:30 ..... News in Arabic  
21:30 ..... The World Of The 30's  
21:30 ..... The World Of The 30's  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Poldark

### PRAYER TIMES

04:12 ..... Fajr (Sunrise) Dhuha

12:42 ..... Dhur

16:23 ..... 'Asr

19:42 ..... Magrib

21:12 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church

Saints of God Church, Tel.

632785

St. Joseph Church Tel.

624590

# Home News

## AAUG panelists say Arab World must play the game right in new global order

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The breakdown of certainties is the major philosophy of the new global order which need not be catastrophic for Arabs if they play the game right, according to panelists at the Association of Arab American University Graduates (AAUG) conference held in Amman.

In their second and last day of sessions held under the theme "The Arab World preparing for the 21st Century," academics explored intra and international relations of the Arab World and the possibilities of ending this "situation of confusion" in the region.

The situation of the Arab nation as it stands is a confused one, said Egyptian author Mohamed Sid Ahmad, adding that while Arab-Israeli relations are organised by the peace process, a mechanism organising Arab interrelations is absent.

Change into the unknown is evident today as international relations of the Arab World have shifted from the Zionism-oriented frame of refer-

ence to a future one which is masked by the pursuit of peace in the Middle East, according to Dr. Sid Ahmad.

He said that while Israel has defined peace as the Middle East market, Arabs are mistaken to follow the mainstream of land for peace in this missile age where land does not guarantee security, he believes to be the only indicator of peace.

This "indefinite situation" was translated by His Majesty King Hussein's declaration of the end of the state of belligerency between Jordan and Israel at the White House in Washington on Monday, said the scholar, affirming that this step was not followed by a peace treaty because of the absence of a clear vision of a recognisable new pattern for this stage to replace the previous one.

Moreover, the scholar identified the beginning of a peaceful era as "the day when Israel is able to convince Arab peoples that its presence in the region is to their advantage." A very unlikely case scenario as Israel would never accept putting the Middle East above Zionism, he added.

With the increase of political, social, economic, edu-

cational and cultural challenges facing the Arab nation, the present ruling regimes are incapable of achieving "real democracy" and reaching "real peace" that does not allow for concessions of Arab's rights, Dr. Haseeb said.

Urging Arabs to establish an "Arab cooperation council and a national council to resist normalisation of ties with the Israeli enemy," he concluded by saying that only by hard work and optimism can Arabs save themselves from their "dilemma."

The two-day conference held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) closed on Tuesday after the last panel chaired by Jordan's former minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas.

The final panel discussed technology and health policy and stressed subjects of telecommunications and health care delivery in the Arab World, pharmaceutical manufacturing in the 21st century, and technology transfer and the Arab World.

The AAUG international conference was hosted by the University of Jordan's Centre for Strategic Studies.

## European Commission to provide JD9.8 m to help water sector

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The European Commission and Jordan Tuesday signed an agreement under which the commission will provide 11.7 million European Currency Units (ECUs), around JD9.8 million, to help the Kingdom's water sector.

The agreement, signed by Minister of Planning Hisham Al Khatib, Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) Secretary-General Qusai Qteishat and the acting head of the European Commission office here, Collins Cracknell, provides for JD9.2 million grants and the rest in a loan.

The grant will come from the Fourth Protocol signed between the commission and Jordan for the 1993-97 period, and the loan will be from the Second Protocol which dates back several years, a European Commission press release said.

The protocols relate to a cooperation agreement signed between the 12-member European Union (EU) and Jordan. The European Commission is the executive arm of the union and administers EU assistance to countries separate from bilateral agreements reached between EU member countries and recipients.

The funds covered under Tuesday's agreement will be used in a four-year project which focuses on improving rehabilitation work on existing water supply and sewerage systems outside the main urban areas, it said.

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Minister of Planning Hisham Al Khatib (3rd L), Water Authority of Jordan Secretary General Qusai Qteishat (3rd R) and acting head of the European Commission office in Amman Collins Cracknell Tuesday sign an agreement for a grant/loan provision to help Jordan's water sector (Petra photo)

Commission office in Amman Collins Cracknell Tuesday sign an agreement for a grant/loan provision to help Jordan's water sector (Petra photo)

cent of pumped water is lost because of leakage and misuse.

In many areas, official reports say, people just tap into water pipes running above the ground, leaving a large amount of water leaking when they are not collecting.

The authorities' focus on waste-water treatment and use of treated water for irrigation came after complaints of contaminated water being used in farms and the produce being rendered unfit for human consumption.

The projects that will be helped by the EU grant will address part of the problem.

## Science and technology conference to include advanced workshops

By Rima Cortbawi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The network of Arab Scientists and Technologists Abroad (ASTA), in coordination with Jordanian universities and various governmental organisations, will hold a science and technology conference between July 30 and Aug. 9, including technical workshops, lectures by internationally-recognised Arab scientists, youth programmes and symposiums on ASTA's mission and its role in Arab World development.

"Our aim is to spread the importance of science and technology in the Arab World," said Muam Nayef, president of ASTA. The ASTA network comprises

scientists and technologists from all Arab origins who support the concept of utilising modern scientific information, acquired during years of study abroad, combining skills and uniting efforts towards the technical evolution of Arab countries. The concept is strongly encouraged by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, who significantly promoted the establishment of ASTA, said Dr. Nayef.

The workshops, organised by the Applied Sciences University, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA), University of Jordan, Yarmouk University and the National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer (NCART), will focus on computer sys-

tems and their applications, pharmacology and new drug development processes, current issues in clinical research, control, power systems and electronics, infrastructure and innovative energy technologies, new materials, lasers and characterisation as well as agricultural sciences, water and environment.

Also featured in the conference are presentations on the challenges of and a new vision of contemporary science for the year 2000, global policies on science and technology, ASTA's role in serving Arab communities abroad, and its cooperation with regional and international institutions and the documentation of the Arab con-

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### JERASH FESTIVAL

- ★ Concert by opera singer "Dame Malvina Major" at the South Theatre at 21:30.
- ★ Play "Body's Lab: Survival" at Garasia Theatre at 20:45.
- ★ The Family International Group at the Sound and Light Theatre at 21:30.
- ★ The Carmen Linares — Spanish Singing and Dancing Group at the Artemis Theatre at 21:00.
- ★ Arabian classical music at the Garasia Theatre at 19:30.
- ★ "Lalla and Wolf" play (Haya Centre) at the Sound and Light Theatre at 19:00.

### PLAY

- ★ Play in Arabic entitled "A Black Comedy" by Majid Al Qassas at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:30 p.m.

### SEMINAR

- ★ Seminar entitled "War and Peace" by Mr. Naji AlBoushi at the Royal Court Centre at 6:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of Chinese products at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Oil painting and ceramic exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Al 'Ain Art Gallery, Wadi Sagra (Tel. 644451).
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by Adnan Al Hili and Mohammad Hamdan at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Reem Lutfi at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art, Gardens St. (Tel. 695291).

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Jazi appointed acting minister

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree Tuesday was issued appointing Minister of State Abdullah Jazi as acting Minister of Social Development during the absence of Minister Mohammad Sqaq who is abroad on official business. Another decree was issued endorsing the government's appointment of Rafe Shalabi as Advisor at the Prime Ministry. Mr. Shaheen has been working for the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation (JTV).

### YBF conference ends

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a five-day international conference on Youth Building the Future (YBF) Tuesday stressed the need to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East as a requirement for achieving regional stability and prosperity. At the conclusion of their meetings here, participants called for achieving economic balance in the region and for overcoming the foreign debt problem. They emphasized the importance of the distribution of natural resources and controlling environmental pollution through international cooperation. The meeting was

opened Friday by Her Royal Highness Princess Rama who deputised for her father, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent.

### Jordan, Romania discuss energy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Talal Ureikat discussed with Romania's ambassador to Jordan, Anton Pascale, scopes of Jordanian-Romanian cooperation in energy field. The ambassador conveyed an invitation to the minister to pay a visit to Romanians extended to him by his Romanian counterpart, Dimtro Bubescu.

### Irbid finishes electricity project

IRBID (Petra) — The Irbid District Electricity Company Tuesday announced that it has completed the implementation of electricity projects in the Irbid governorate. According to the company's general manager, Abdul Raouf Al Sheikh, the projects entailed the installation of 400-kilovolt transformer stations in three locations: Deir Abi Saeed, Ramtha and Sarith.

## The new winds of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'

By Angham Tamimi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Creating the magical Mediterranean Island of Will in Shakespeare's imagination, Oddsocks' jugglers, stilt-walkers, fire-eaters and acrobats joined together at the South Theatre in Jerash Monday to perform "The Tempest," one of the playwright's greatest plays.

Sponsored by the British Council in Jordan, Monday's performance at the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts combined classical acting with tumbling skills and spontaneous interaction with the audience.

Oddsocks Troupe arrived at Jerash south amphitheatre on their colourful, Elizabethan pageant wagon, which transforms itself into a large sailing ship and a wild, luscious land.

Shakespeare's "The Tempest" tells the story of Prospero, duke of Milan, who was seized and cast out to sea by his brother Antonio, and Alonso, king of Naples. He spent 20 years on an island in the Mediterranean Sea with his daughter Miranda.

"Sometimes people come to see our play and

expect it to be serious, but they are shocked to find themselves introduced to a comic work," said Elli Mackenzie, one of the chief organisers. "Yes, they feel shocked at first, but then warm to us, and even enjoy our performance, one they have never seen before."

Oddsocks' The Tempest lasted for only two hours, while original! Shakespeare's work needs three or four hours, and many actors.

"What we do is that we share adaptation of the original play," said Ms. Mackenzie. "We read the play, then cut a lot, but keep in mind that the whole of the story is told. We are not frightened to cut. In addition we do not use more than eight actors."

Oddsocks' attempts to capture the spirit and style of entertainment produced in Shakespeare's time, coupled with modern-day, positive images of race, creed and colour.

"It is the style the company works in everytime. We look at what entertains people to make them happy and amazed at the special effects like fire and magic tricks. There is not too much sadness," said Ms. Mackenzie.

At the end of the play, Prospero regains the dukedom of Milan and forgives his enemies. Everyone sets sail for home on the magically rebuilt ship.

Shakespeare's plays are known to be serious classical works. But, Oddsocks, formed in 1989, approaches his plays in a novel way. The troupe converts the serious into the comical.

With Prospero's magic



A scene from Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' as performed Monday night by Great Britain's Oddsocks Troupe at the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts (Photo: Yousef Al 'Allan)

experience to work there.

Expressions on the audience's faces by the end of the show reflected the re-

## Arab writers to convene

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Writers Federation's permanent bureau will hold a meeting in Amman Friday to discuss several cultural issues. The bureau will also hold a symposium to discuss the role of writers and poets in the Arab cultural movement. The meetings will mark the Arab Writers Federation's 40th anniversary.

### The Spanish Embassy in Amman

Has the pleasure to announce that within the activities of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts

### THE WORLD FAMOUS FLAMENCO SINGER "CARMEN LINARES"

and her Flamenco Group will perform at the Artemis Theatre/Jerash today, July 27th 1994 at 8:30 p.m.

## U.S. wants U.N. observers to monitor invasion of Haiti

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States Monday called for U.N. observers to monitor its possible invasion of Haiti and proposed a 6,000-strong U.N. peacekeeping force to take over after the invaders leave.

But a draft of the U.S.-initiated resolution, obtained by Reuters, gives no warning date for a possible invasion as the United States did to Iraq before the 1991 Gulf war.

Both the lack of a deadline and the call for U.N. monitors is causing Washington's allies to have second thoughts about United Nations personnel being in Haiti at the same time as an invasion force. Diplomats said these provisions may be revised.

A U.S. official said he hoped for adoption of the resolution by Friday but that it could slip into the weekend. The mandate for the abortive U.N. mission in Haiti expires Sunday and the

U.S. resolution is meant to replace it.

The Clinton administration is laying the diplomatic groundwork for armed intervention by seeking United Nations authorisation for an invasion to topple Haiti's military leaders and allow Washington to choose the date.

The military overthrew exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in a September 1991 coup.

The resolution would ask the United Nations to authorise a U.S.-led multinational force to use "all necessary means" to restore the "legitimate authorities in Haiti and establish and maintain a secure and stable environment."

It also would establish "concurrent with the deployment of the multinational force, a small observer group" reporting to Secretary-General Boutros

Ghali for coordination purposes.

The document says that after the U.S.-led force ends its mission, the United Nations should take over with 6,000 soldiers and police. Dr. Ghali previously had suggested 1,200 troops.

The U.N. force should be in place by February 1995, after Haiti holds another round of presidential elections, the draft says. Mr. Aristide, the country's first democratically elected president, took office in early 1991 and served only seven months before the military overthrew him.

The U.S. official said the U.N. peacekeeping group would also include Americans. Washington would like up to 50 per cent American troops while most U.N. peacekeeping operations prohibit any one country from having more than a third of its soldiers.

### Chechen tank unit sides with opposition — report

MOSCOW (AFP) — A key army tank unit has withdrawn its support for Chechen President Dzhokhar Dudayev and offered to help opposition forces oust him if needed, ITAR-TASS news agency reported Tuesday.

Opposition leaders in Chechnya meanwhile asked Russia to recognise them as the new authority in the tiny breakaway republic in the Caucasus and appealed to President Boris Yeltsin to guarantee stability there, the news agency said.

The Shalinski Tank Regiment, which forms the core of the Chechen Armed Forces, said it would pose "no obstacle" to the opposition seizing power from Mr. Dudayev and said it "will support them if needed," the report said.

ITAR-TASS, quoting well-informed sources, said opposition forces were now in control of most of Chechnya with the exception of Mr. Dudayev's residence in the capital, Grozny, and an area immediately surrounding it.

The Chechen opposition asked Moscow to recognise its "provisional council" led by Umar Avtukhanov, the head of the Nadterechni regional administration, as the "only legitimate organ of power in Chechnya," ITAR-TASS said.

The council would run the republic until general elections could be organised, the report said.

Mr. Dudayev, a former Soviet Air Force bomber pilot, was elected in October 1991 and at that time unilaterally declared Chechnya's independence from the Russian Federation.

Moscow never recognised Chechnya's independence, but the republic's status within the Russian Federation has remained hazy after Mr. Yeltsin was forced by political opposition in 1992 to withdraw troops he had deployed there in an effort to regain control over Chechnya.

Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, Vyacheslav Kostikov, said Monday the Russian leader was "closely watching" developments in Chechnya and said the Kremlin had received numerous reports of human rights violations there in recent weeks.

Clashes last month between forces loyal to Mr. Dudayev and opposition paramilitary units led by Russian Labazanov left some 180 dead, according to opposition sources, while the government claimed no more than 10 had died in the fighting.

Despite mounting pressure from the opposition, Mr. Dudayev appeared determined to hold on to power and Monday announced that he would serve out his term, due to end in October 1995, when presidential elections would be held.

Mr. Dudayev, who was elected with 83 per cent of the vote, said he had not decided whether he would be a candidate in the next elections, ITAR-TASS reported.

Elsewhere, the Interfax News Agency said armed opponents to Mr. Dudayev had secured a stronghold in the town of Argun, on the river of the same name, to the east of the Chechen capital Grozny.



Three Spanish UNPROFOR troops try to fix a Croatian boy's tricycle in Medjugorje near the Spanish battalion's base. The Spaniard's sector includes Mostar, divided between Croats

and Bosnian Muslims, where the European Union's administrator was inaugurated Saturday for a two-year mandate to rebuild the ancient city (AFP photo)

### Russia slams U.N. Bosnia proposal

SARAJEVO (R) — Russia poured cold water on Tuesday on a proposal by Secretary General Boutros Ghali that U.N. troops should be pulled out of former Yugoslavia to make way for a force provided by the big powers.

Defense Minister Pavel Grachev said on a visit to Belgrade that only U.N. soldiers should act as peacekeepers and NATO was not a suitable replacement for the 35,000-strong U.N. force.

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Gen. Grachev was scheduled to hold talks with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Yugoslav army commanders and later with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Serb Army Commander Ratko Mladic.

He said he would also visit Russian U.N. peacekeeping troops in former Yugoslavia.

In Sarajevo, a senior U.N. official gave a warning that U.N. operations in key areas of Bosnia could grind to a halt unless a dispute over Serb prisoners and Muslim missing persons was resolved in the next few days.

The Serbs have threatened to block U.N. movements on their territory unless the Muslims release a group of Serb prisoners. The Muslims say they will not do so until the Serbs account for a group of Muslims who disappeared after being abducted by the Serbs two years ago.

"We are making no progress on this problem and it is threatening to stop everything," Gen. Mladic says. "If there is no solution soon he will halt all cooperation with the United Nations," Viktor Andreev, U.N. head of civil affairs in Bosnia, told reporters.

"NATO is not a peacekeeping organisation. Only UNPROFOR can fulfil the mission in Bosnia," Dr. Ghali suggested Monday in a letter to the Security Council that only major powers such as the United States, not the lightly armed and dangerously exposed U.N. force, could enforce a peace deal.

Dr. Ghali did not mention NATO in his letter, but he said the contact group — the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Russia — should provide forces to back up their peace proposals.

Of the contact group, only Russia is not a NATO member.

The United Nations accused the Serbs of restricting its ability to investigate Serb violations of the U.N.-imposed heavy weapons exclusion zone around the Muslim enclave of Gorazde Monday.

Gen. Grachev arrived in Belgrade accompanied by Russian special envoy Vitaly Churkin amid intense diplomatic efforts to persuade the Bosnian Serbs to reverse their rejection of the latest international peace plan.

The Yugoslav News Agency, Tanjug, said it understood Gen. Grachev would propose to the Serbs that a Russian peacekeeping contingent be deployed around

the northern Bosnian town of Brcko.

Brcko straddles an important Serb supply route whose status is of concern to the Serbs in the event of a division of Bosnia along the lines proposed by the five-power contact group.

The peace plan, which the Serbs have so far rejected, awards 51 per cent of Bosnia to the Muslim-Croat alliance and the rest to the Serbs, who now hold 70 per cent.

The "northern corridor," which runs through a bottleneck around Brcko, links Serbia proper with Serb-held territory in western Bosnia and Croatia.

Gen. Grachev also said he wanted to give Russia's reaction to Dr. Ghali's suggestion that the U.N. force should be pulled out whether a peace settlement is reached or not.

"I came here to convey Russia's stand on Dr. Ghali's statement that UNPROFOR should be replaced by NATO. The U.N. Security Council is now in a state of shock," Gen. Grachev told reporters.

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Haitians picked up at sea wait to be driven to the customs dock in Port Au Prince as the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Valiant returned 219 Haitians from Guantanamo Bay Naval Station (AFP photo)

### Gambia unveils military-civil government

BANJUL (R) — Gambia's new military ruler, Lieutenant Yahya Jammeh, unveiled a 15-member government Tuesday made up almost equally of soldiers and civilians.

The non-military members were mostly civil servants under President Sir Dawda Jawara, who was toppled in a

weekend coup and has since fled to neighbouring Senegal.

An official statement named Lt. Jammeh president and put four other lieutenants earlier named as coup leaders in key posts.

It said Sama Sabally was vice president; Edward Singhat, minister of defence; Sadibou Hydara, interior

minister and Yankuba Touray, minister of local government.

A Gambian journalist who knows Lt. Jammeh well said he was a graduate of the United States military training school at Fort Benning and described him as "well-educated and well-balanced."

### Modernised Labour will appeal to 'the broad majority' — Blair

LONDON (AFP) — Newly-elected British opposition leader Tony Blair gave a stark warning of failure Tuesday if his Labour Party tried to turn the clock back to the socialist dogma of old.

In the wide-ranging interview with the pro-Conservative Daily Telegraph, he said he had a mandate to shed socialist dogma that had kept Labour out of government.

"I am keen to argue on the Labour Party agenda, and not to believe our purpose in coming into government is to switch the clock back 15 years," he said. "We won't succeed if we do."

"I am not going to run the Labour Party for this interest group or that pressure group. It is the broad majority of British people out there who want the country run for them. That is what I will do," he said.

Emphasising the need for continued modernisation, he said: "There was a point in the 1980s when we went badly wrong and there is no harm in admitting that. The change

began by (former Labour leaders) Neil Kinnock and John Smith was right."

He acknowledged Labour would have to come to terms with many changes made by the Tories since 1979.

"Ballots before strikes and for union elections, restrictions on mass and flying pickets — those things are here to stay," he said.

He also repeated his commitment to Europe, and confirmed Labour would introduce legislation for a Scottish parliament and a Welsh assembly "as a first-year (in government) commitment", and would reform the House of Lords.

The paper considered there were echoes of the radicalism of former Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in Mr. Blair's pledge that the Labour Party would have to reform the welfare state to ensure that its purpose was "to get people off dependency rather than keep them on."

Challenged on difficulties a sceptical electorate might

present him over his pro-European views, Mr. Blair said: "I am a committed European and I believe our future lies with Europe."

He acknowledged Labour would have to come to terms with many changes made by the Tories since 1979.

"I would like to see us being more ready to take on and criticise those aspects of European policy that are plainly contrary to the interests of British and European people, such as the Common Agricultural Policy which imposes huge costs on the consumer."

He added: "We want to develop a policy that keeps us as committed Europeans, working for European co-operation in an intelligent way which realises that the path of the co-operation may have to change because of events."

Mr. Blair came out well ahead of Prime Minister John Major as Britain's preferred choice for premier in a weekend poll by the paper's stablemate the Sunday Telegraph, and the Labour Party also enjoys a comfortable lead over the ruling Tories in opinion polls, although elections are two years away.

### U.S. wants new nuclear test ban treaty guidelines by September

GENEVA (AFP) — The United States wants the basis of a treaty banning all nuclear testing to be drawn up by Sept. 7, U.S. ambassador to the Geneva disarmament conference Stephen Ledogar said Monday.

Ledogar said it was important to compose a text and move on from theories and generalisations.

The conference, whose members have been engaged in talks on and off since the start of the year on concluding a comprehensive test ban treaty (CTBT), reopened their discussions Monday, with the current session due to go through to Sept. 7.

The rapid conclusion of a CTBT treaty is the "number one priority in multilateral arms control negotiations" for the U.S. administration of President Bill Clinton, Mr. Ledogar stressed.

With the exception of China, which recently held nuclear tests, the other main nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, Britain and France — have decreed a testing moratorium.

France is in a difficult position on the issue, with President Francois Mitterrand, who has the final say on French defence matters, in favour of extending the moratorium. However, his neo-liberal government wants to see a return to testing.

The United States fears there exists a risk of increased global nuclear proliferation and wants to push on with compiling a treaty.

That desire is underpinned by the knowledge Washington will be able to keep on modernising its nuclear arsenal via laboratory simulations, a technique in which the United States leads the field.

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**Topless women OK; topless men to be fined**

**SAINTE-RAPHAEL, France (R)** — The mayor of a popular French Riviera town where bare-breasted women are a common sight on the beach has decided to crack down on men walking about topless in the towns. Charles Oméde, the French television reporter who was walking the town's notorious streets shirtless, in shorts or in bed sheets, was tasteless. Officers would from now on be fined up to 200 francs (\$27) he said.

**AIDS-infected needle used in holdup**

**BESANCON, France (AP)** — A grocer handed over his takings after a young man threatened him with what he said was an AIDS-infected hypodermic, police said Monday. The grocer discovered the young man managing in the back of his shop, but the attacker vanished the needle, demanding the day's takings. The grocer handed over 10,000 francs (\$1,900), police said.

**Peru's tallest man takes petite bride**

**LIMA (R)** — Peru's tallest man married a 23-year-old woman who barely reaches his waist, local television reported Monday. Margarito Lachacuay, who is 7 feet 2.23 metres (2.23 metres) tall, walked down the aisle over the weekend with Marlene Amos, a petite bride of 4 feet 9 (1.44 metres), the television report said. "I am two months pregnant and the doctors say the child is well developed," a beaming Mr Amos told reporters who arrived to cover the event in the small jungle city of Tingo Vaca, 300 kilometres north of Lima. Mr. Machacuay's stature caused problems on the way to the municipal office where the wedding took place since it could not fit into the nuptial ring. "It was impossible to make a 2-inch-wide (5 centimetre) ring," a jeweller named Maria told Lima Channel 2 Television.

**Bobbit denies eating girlfriend**

"The presence of people being (someone) accused

AS VEGAS, Nev. (R) — Wayne Bobbitt, whom his wife last year sued for not guilty at a hearing to a charge of bating his former girlfriend. Mr. Bobbitt, 27, said at his trial he was "absolutely 100 per cent not guilty" bating 21-year-old former topless dancer Kristi Elliott. Those were the words of football legend OJ Simpson used Friday in a hearing not guilty to bating his ex-wife and a female friend. Mr. Bobbitt told reporters he chose the word because when he was growing up in Buffalo, New York, then the Buffalo Bills, he was running back, was he. Justice of the Peace Bill Jensen set a Sept. 28 trial date for Mr. Bobbitt, who is set after the first alleged incident, on May 12. He faces up to 20 years in jail if convicted on battery charges. Mr. Bobbitt and his ex-wife, when she was accused of bating his penis off and swinging it away. It was successfully removed. Last Jan. 21, a Virginia jury found his former wife guilty of the charge of felonious wounding in an action of temporary insanity.

**Cartney slams letter overimal tests**

**STON (R)** — British rock star Paul McCartney has sent a proposal concerning Taiwan's U.N. bid to the United Nations. His letter to the U.N. Assembly interim agenda on July 19, the United Nations News reported, citing unnamed U.N. sources.

In a joint letter to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali on June 28, twelve countries with official ties with Taiwan asked that the United Nations discuss the Taiwan membership issue at the Sept. 20 U.N. Assembly.

The United Nations ousted Taipei from its ranks in 1971 to admit Beijing, its long-time rival.

The joint letter stated that

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Rwandan refugee children through a volunteer handing out biscuits at an orphanage in Goma (AFP photo)

## Pressure mounts on Berlusconi

**ROME (AFP)** — Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi came under renewed attack Tuesday over conflict of interest, after his Fininvest media empire became ensnared in a corruption probe.

Criticism in Tuesday's newspapers came as a Senate commission prepared to debate an opposition anti-trust bill which could force the premier to put his business interests in a "blind trust," and to hear the "three wise men" he named to prevent such conflicts.

The criticism focused on a meeting Mr. Berlusconi called Sunday evening with lawyers for two Fininvest employees, wanted on tax fraud charges, and senior government officials for his Forza Italia party who were all former Fininvest executives.

The next day the financing director of his media empire, Salvatore Sciascia, gave himself up to magistrates investigating Italy's "Clean Hands" corruption probe and admitted paying bribes to finance police when making tax declarations.

"The presence of people being (someone) accused

of crimes against the state is fresh proof of an inadmissible conflict between the prime minister's wider interests and his public functions," Luigi Berlinguer, head of the opposition left in the lower house of parliament, said in Tuesday's *La Stampa* paper.

On Monday evening his counterpart in the Senate or upper house, Cesare Salvi, went further in calling for new elections, since Mr. Berlusconi's new party came to power on a wave of popular opposition to corruption and old-style politicking.

"This government is threadbare and has shown itself to be something different from what Italians voted for," he said.

Partners in the government coalition headed by Forza Italia also continued to voice doubts.

"At the very least the situation is ambiguous and leaves the door open to polemics," commented Pierluigi Petrucci, parliamentary leader of the coalition, Northern League.

As well as the defending lawyers, the meeting at Mr. Berlusconi's villa in Arcore

## U.S. secretary attacks Republican health plan

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A health care plan pressed by Republicans evades the hard issues that must be resolved before the U.S. health care system can be refashioned, Labour Secretary Robert Reich said.

In a speech to the National Council of Senior Citizens, Mr. Reich said the plan offered by Senate minority leader Robert Dole would do more harm than good to health care issues most vital to senior citizens.

"One of the first jobs of a liberal government is to put together an anti-trust law," he added, echoing an opposition demand made right after Mr. Berlusconi's victory three months ago.

The prime minister himself has maintained a careful silence since the weekend, cancelling two planned television interviews, although his associates describe him as "indignant" and "wounded" about the suspicions being voiced about him.

"On every dimension, it's a disaster," Mr. Reich said, noting that the Dole plan does not cover prescription drugs or pay for long-term care.

"His plan ducks the hard issues of universal coverage and lowering costs in the hope that simply calling something health care reform actually makes it so," Mr. Reich said.

Sen. Dole has been the chief opponent in Congress of Mr. Clinton's proposed universal health care plan. The administration hopes to get a plan through Congress soon.

Mr. Reich said he worries that Sen. Dole's political philosophy "may be a little bit more than an echo of Nancy Reagan's cheerful solution to the drug crisis, just say no."

Still, Mr. Reich added, the fact that Sen. Dole even introduced a health plan is a positive sign, because "a few months ago he said there wasn't a health care crisis."

Different health care bills have won the approval of two committees in the House of Representatives and two Senate committees this summer. Differences remain on how to define universal coverage, how to pay for the programme if Congress refuses to require employers to provide coverage and how many years will elapse before universal coverage is realised.

Mr. Clinton's plan would guarantee all Americans a package of broad benefits, including hospital care, physician visits and preventive care. Sen. Dole's proposal would not require anyone to buy insurance and would not guarantee a specific benefit package.

Sen. Dole's bill would provide \$10 billion in subsidies for the poorest of Americans, bringing coverage to some of the 39 million Americans without it, but it makes no claim to cover everyone.

Mr. Clinton's proposal would force employers to pay 80 per cent of their workers' insurance premiums and provide subsidies for small businesses and the poor.

The General Affairs Committee will decide after the opening of the U.N. Assembly on Sept. 20 whether to include the interim agenda in the official agenda for discussion.

Both sides of the Taiwan Strait have claimed the legitimate ruler of all of China.

But after Taiwan failed in its bid last year, the government here changed its strategy by saying that it would no longer campaign with Beijing to represent all China.

The change is to enhance Taiwan's bid, observers here said.

The 12 countries which sent the letter to the United Nations are Burkina Faso, Central Africa, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Nicaragua, Niger, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, Solomon Islands, and Swaziland.

## U.S. troops bring aid as

## Rwandan refugees trickle home

**GOMA, Zaire (Agencies)** — U.S. military aircraft landed in eastern Zaire Tuesday, bringing in urgently needed equipment to purify contaminated water which is spreading cholera among hordes of Rwandan refugees.

Several thousand refugees also crossed the frontier back into Rwanda but United Nations officials said they could do little to help repatriation while their hands were full coping with the nightmare conditions of the Zaire camps.

"It's taken us until now to get the aid effort off the ground. Hopefully we can balance the effort to feed and water 1.2 million people with the process of getting them home," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesman Ray Wilkinson told reporters.

A team of U.S. soldiers set up their first water purification plant on the shores of Lake Kivu while further down the water's edge refugees were collecting drinking water close to a floating corpse.

"We're moving as fast as we can," said U.S. army Major Guy Shields.

A cholera epidemic spread through dirty water, has swept through the camps around the Zairean town of Goma in the last week and so far up to 14,000 people have died of this and other diseases.

Aid workers said mass graves were overflowing and they would have to begin burning the piles of bodies, an act that is anathema to Africans because they believe it destroys the spirits of the dead.

Thousands of bodies were stacked up on the roadsides around Goma town and on the routes to the teeming refugee camps faster than aid groups and French soldiers could collect them.

Aid workers estimate the 1.2 million refugees need about 30 million litres of clean water daily.

Each American water plant — a total of four were due to arrive on two trans-

port planes Tuesday — can purify about 90,000 litres daily, still a fraction of what is needed.

The U.N. was aiming to get up to 36 aid flights into the small Goma Airport Tuesday, which would be a record in efforts to import supplies to feed the refugees who need 600 tonnes of food a day to survive.

German and Israeli aircraft have also flown in food and medical supplies.

U.N. officials said refugees had two weeks to harvest crops ripening inside Rwanda or it would rot on the stalk. If that happens, the refugees will have to exist on food aid for months to come as the next planting seasons starts in September.

Last Friday, UNHCR said it wanted to encourage the refugees to go home because it was safe enough in Rwanda now the war had ended and because the camps were traps for disease and hunger.

The Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), whose Tutsi guerrilla forces defeated the former hardline Hutu government after a three-month bloodbath this month, established a new transitional government in the capital Kigali last week.

U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) spokeswoman Mercedes Sagazas said the agency wanted to place stockpiles of food along the roads inside Rwanda to sustain refugees going home.

"A spontaneous repatriation is possible," she told reporters.

In Port-Louis, Mauritius, Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko Tuesday said his government would disarm members of the Rwandan army who have taken refuge in his country.

Mr. Mobutu, in a joint statement with Rwanda's new president, Pasteur Bizimungu, issued in Mauritius after talks Monday and Tuesday, said his country would "disarm" Rwandan soldiers sheltering in Zaire.

The U.N. estimates between 15,000 to 20,000 soldiers from the former Rwandan

government army (FAR) fled to Zaire from the advancing Rwandan Patriotic Front which now holds Rwanda's political and military reins.

Several officials of the unelected government now in Zaire have threatened to use the FAR soldiers to launch attacks into Rwanda in an attempt to regain power.

The joint presidential statement from Mauritius said that: "Zaire will not allow its territory to serve as a base for attacks" and "agrees to help Rwandan refugees return home."

It also said that "a joint commission will be set up to ensure this agreement is implemented."

Mr. Bizimungu stressed that the agreement would "revive" bilateral relations and create an atmosphere of confidence in the region.

Zaire has already moved to quell the former Rwandan

government. On Monday the governor of Goma, the town in Zaire which has been crowded out with more than 1.2 million homeless Rwandans, forbade ex-Prime Minister Jean Kambanda and the FAR chief-of-staff General Faustin Bizimungu from holding a press conference.

The RPF has always held that the ex-government, formed after President Juvenal Habyarimana died in a suspected rocket attack on his plane on April 6, was simply a "puppet" regime.

Mr. Bizimungu had a first meeting with Mr. Mobutu Monday when he arrived on this Indian Ocean island.

The sources said the Rwandan president's stay in Mauritius, where Mr. Mobutu is on vacation, had initially been scheduled to last a few hours and he had been expected to fly home aboard a U.N. chartered flight Monday night or Tuesday morning.



## Street fighting, looting breaks out in Lagos

**LAGOS (AFP)** — Many people were injured in central Lagos Tuesday after a street battle broke out among traders at odds over political protests aimed at bringing down Nigeria's military government, witnesses said.

They carried away fridges, television sets, fans and air conditioners worth thousands of dollars, witnesses said. Riot police later intervened to restore order in the economic metropolis.

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Nigeria faces severe fuel shortages after the oil industry workers, whose union bosses have been holding talks with management and the government, have been challenging the regime for four weeks.

The shopkeepers fought other traders who attacked them with knives and cudgels in a bid to have them abide by the strike call.

Armed looters took advantage of the street battles and

the most powerful in the country,

have called on the junta to hand over to Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of presidential elections held in June last year, whose outcome was annulled by the regime.

There was no sign Tuesday that the protest would be called off, observers said.

The current military regime of General Sam Abacha has arrested Mr. Abiola, a Muslim tycoon from the Yoruba southwest, who faces trial for treason since he last June declared himself head of state and commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Security forces told passers-by near the Central Bank of Nigeria and in adjoining streets to raise their

arms in the air before they went about their business Tuesday, to ensure that they were not armed, witnesses said.

Hundreds of Lagos market women Monday staged a peaceful march round main streets, calling for a quick return to democracy and the installation of Mr. Abiola, currently detained in the federal capital Abuja, as president.

About 14 people, mostly youths and schoolchildren, were arrested Monday in Ibadan, capital of south-west Oyo state, 140 kilometres north of here, in another pro-democracy protest, press reports said Tuesday.

**West shifts toward ASEAN on Burma policy**

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They carried away fridges, television sets, fans and air conditioners worth thousands of dollars, witnesses said. Riot police later intervened to restore order in the economic metropolis.

Everyone agreed that constructive engagement is not perfect, but isolation is not the answer, either," a Singapore official said Tuesday after a meeting between the Association of South East Asian Nations and its major developed partners.

ASEAN was narrowing the gap as well, delegates said, with Thai Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai asking Rangoon Monday to release opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest as a prelude to closer ties.

The delegates were speaking after a closed-door session between ASEAN and its so-called dialogue partners, Australia, Canada, the European Union (EU), Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States.

To make ASEAN's constructive engagement policy more effective, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans is fleshing out a strategy of "benchmarks" to measure progress toward restoring democracy, participants said.

Previous Western criticism of the ASEAN policy focused on a perceived failure to get political concessions from Burma's ruling junta in exchange for the contacts and international recognition being offered.

ASEAN contended it could best encourage political change in Rangoon through regular contacts with the junta, while the West has traditionally called for its political isolation.

The ASEAN states were "very surprised," a Philippines official said Tuesday, at the latest reaction to their policy of constructive engagement.

ASEAN's Western partners muted their criticism

of the ASEAN policy which had failed to trigger any change in Rangoon, delegates said.

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Jordan Times advertising department.

## A much stronger Jordan

**FOLLOWING THE** proclamation of the end of the state of war between Jordan and Israel, the Kingdom emerges much stronger and more confident than before. In a region that has seen many wars in the past 40 years, not only between the Arabs and Israel but also among Arabs themselves, a Jordan in peace with its most powerful neighbour is certainly stronger than one at war with it.

During the past decade, Jordan saw the edifice of a confident post-1970 Arab order crumble down. The fall started with Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and the driving of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) out of that country. The fall of oil prices came next. Then came Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the Gulf war that led to a schism still unhealed in Arab ranks. In the process, Jordan lost Iraq as a formidable trade partner, the Gulf states as a financial aid source, and the U.S. as a long time friend and ally.

And in 1993, Jordan was taken by surprise by the deal made between the PLO and Israel in Oslo.

Jordan found itself in the first days of 1994 left with a few friends and more enemies.

The threats were coming from all directions: The American blockade of Aqaba, Saudi estrangement, lack of Arab solidarity, scarcity of funds, obsolete army equipment and Israeli pressure. And thus Jordan had to move and attempt to quell all the threats.

Monday's Washington Declaration is not an instant panacea. It surely shattered the aspirations of those who hoped Jordan was bound to disintegrate and were positioning themselves to reap the spoils. The Washington Declaration might not help heal the rift in the Arab World, but it certainly sends strong signals to many capitals in the region that Jordan is a viable state, a major player and a reliable partner in the emerging post-Cold War Middle East regional order.

With its most volatile borders recognised and its role in the peace process reassured, Jordan hopes that its decades-old quest for peace and its moderate and tolerant posture will at last bring peace and prosperity to its people and all the peoples of the region.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

**THE WASHINGTON** declaration is not the end of the road but it serves as a first step on an arduous road towards regaining Jordan's legitimate rights, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Tuesday. Commenting on the summit meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the U.S. president, the paper said that it was an occasion to declare the end of belligerency and end the no-war-no-peace situation that lasted for ages. The Washington declaration marks a new era and a new beginning for active work on the road to peace and a commitment on both sides to work hard to achieve the aspirations of the people in the Middle East region, the paper added. While admitting that times have changed and that new means other than conflict are being sought to regain national rights, the paper said one cannot be carried away by unjustified optimism and at the same time should not resign himself to pessimism, one should wait for the final outcome, said the paper. We welcome peace that will restore our rights, end aggression and establish security and stability in the region and open the door for future prosperity and progress, added the paper. But, the paper said, the road to attain the national aspirations is still long and King Hussein's leadership and wise policies coupled with a strong national unity are essential ingredients to help the Kingdom achieve its objectives.

**A COLUMNIST** in Al Dustour addressed the one hour sit-in staged by heads and supporters of opposition parties near the Grand Husseini Mosque downtown Amman and said that these parties' condemnation of the Washington summit meeting was fruitless and would soon be forgotten. Mohammad Subeih said that the parties have failed to present an alternative to a meeting with the Israelis to regain the lost territory and the other rights. While admitting that the opposition groups have resorted to very democratic means to express their views and sought to present a symbolic gesture in opposition to the Washington meeting, rather than organising a huge rally that would further inflame sentiments, the writer said that it was quite possible and necessary for the heads of these parties to issue a statement with an alternative plan to convince the public of their views. The writer said that the one hour sit-in was deemed necessary by the opposition parties whose activities, charged the writer, are being totally ignored by the official information services.

## Washington Watch

## American-Jewish community and Christian fundamentalism

**THE INCREASINGLY** powerful role played by the Christian fundamentalist movement in the Republican Party poses a serious problem for the organised Jewish community in the U.S. During the past month this issue has stirred up a vigorous public debate within the organised Jewish community. While the debate was first played out in the Jewish press, it has recently made its way into the opinion pages of mainstream U.S. press.

For at least the past two decades, American-Jews have been divided over their view of Christian fundamentalism. Liberal Jews were repulsed by the "fanaticism of the true believers." They were concerned not only about the intolerance of the movement in its rejection of the liberal social agenda espoused by a majority of the Jewish community, but also by the claim of many fundamentalist Christians that only believers in Jesus Christ would be saved by God.

So, as liberal Jews led the fight for maintaining the separation between Church and State (including the effort to keep prayer out of public schools and removing Christian symbols from publicly owned property), they ran up against those Christian groups which would argue that religion is an important part of public.

On the other side were those pro-Israel strategists who, as early as the 1970s, saw right wing Christians as an ally in their struggle against the Arabs. Many Christian fundamentalists were virulently anti-Communist, and saw Arabs as surrogates of the Soviet Union in the Middle East.

But belief in the state of Israel was also for many fundamentalists a matter of theology. Made increasingly popular by the Reverend Pat Robertson in the 1980s, this belief taught that the Old Testament prophecies were destined to be replayed in the modern world, leading to the Day of Judgement and the Final Battle of Armageddon as proclaimed in the New Testament.

According to this school of thought, the gathering of the Jews into Israel in 1948 was part of God's plan to bring on the Final Battle, in which the forces of good (which fundamentalist Christians see as the U.S. and its allies) would confront the forces of evil (correspondingly seen as the Soviet Union and its allies — Arabs and Muslims). This battle would lead to the destruction of the Earth, which for this theology is a necessity before Jesus can return to save "the select, the believers."

This Christian fundamentalist view maintained that, although all Jews must ultimately be converted to Christianity in order to fulfill the prophecies, Israel must be supported at all costs.

It was this last belief which led several right-wing Jewish strategists to cultivate fundamentalist Christian support to shore up their political power in the U.S. They arranged trips for fundamentalist leaders to visit Israel and meetings for them with Israeli government officials. Jewish groups also helped arrange for these fundamentalist Christian groups to open offices in Israel and even a Christian television station in South Lebanon. In return, the Christian fundamentalists supported the right-wing Jewish pro-Israel agenda in the U.S.

Many of these right wing Jewish strategists formed the

backbone of the neoconservative movement that provided quite a number of foreign policy experts to the Reagan administration in the 1980s. It was they who formed the unlikely alliance of right-wing Jews and Christian fundamentalists supporters of Israel within the Republican Party.

The intensity and success of this relationship can be best understood by the example of 1988, when Arab-Americans took pro-Arab and balanced Middle East peace process resolutions to Democratic Party state conventions across the U.S. A coalition was formed of Arab-Americans, progressive Jews, African-Americans and peace activists. In every state where this coalition entered Democratic conventions, they won. And, for the first time, this same coalition succeeded in getting the issue of Palestinian statehood debated at the Democratic National Convention.

On the other hand, the power of the neo-conservative and Christian fundamentalists alliance was so strong on the Republican side that, in 1988, Arab-Americans were unable to win or even secure a debate on any Middle East platform language in any state. Even in 1992, when Arab-Americans sought to change the very strong pro-Israel language of the Republican Party by adding language supportive of the Madrid process started by the Republican administration of President Bush and Secretary of State Baker, every attempt was defeated by this right wing alliance.

So, today, as liberal Democrats, including many Jewish Democrats, have begun a campaign to warn about the strong influence of the Christian right in the Republican Party, it is not surprising that neo-conservative Jews have rushed to the defence of their right-wing Christian Republican allies. This has set off a firestorm of debate within the Jewish community.

Compounding this debate is a recently published report by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL), "The Religious Right: Assault on Tolerance and Pluralism in America," a study of the growing influence of the Christian fundamentalist movement. While the ADL steadfastly maintains that their report is non-partisan and should not be confused with the Democratic campaign against the Christian right, the timing of its release has fanned the flames of debate in the Jewish community.

The sides in this debate currently line up something like this: On the one side are liberal Jewish organisations such as the American-Jewish Committee and the American-Jewish Congress and moderate Jewish Republicans like Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA). On the other side are Likud-supporting groups such as Americans for a Safe Israel (ASI) and former Reagan and Bush administration officials like former Reagan Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams and Vice President Quayle's former Chief of Staff William Kristol.

The role of the ADL in the midst of this dispute is, at best, confusing. A once-liberal civil rights organisation, the ADL has moved to the right, finding "anti-Semitism" in every liberal and left-wing group in the U.S. — African-Americans, the liberal press, the mainstream Protestant National Council of Churches, peace organisations and all

Arab-American groups. It is the ADL which is responsible for creating the equation of anti-Israel and anti-Semitism).

The liberal side warns that the Christian fundamentalists are "anti-pluralist and intolerant," and that their growing influence threatens the liberal social agenda on issues like separation of church and state, abortion rights and the rights of minorities including women and homosexuals. "The religious right is very, very dangerous," claims Steve Gutow, executive director of the National Jewish Democratic Council. "When pluralism is challenged... most of us in the Jewish community are going to stand up and say 'no.' Despite recognising the value of their support for Israel, Mr. Gutow says that "most Jews are understandably mistrustful of the radical right."

The conservative Jewish response is straight-forward. The spokesperson of ASI said "the greatest friends the state of Israel has in America are the Christian conservatives" and he goes on to note that "conservative Christians and Orthodox Jews share beliefs on many social and moral issues."

Elliott Abrams goes further, accusing many in his community of holding a "deep-seated fear of Christian Evangelical groups" that he says is a form of bigotry. "William Kristol adds "it is just so short-sighted and self-destructive for a Jewish organisation like the ADL to unjustly and gratuitously alienate Christian conservatives."

While the debate rages on in the Jewish community over the issue itself, and over the ADL report, the Republican Party leadership has apparently decided not to distance itself from the Christian right — a powerful bloc of votes which the Republicans feel are central to their electoral ambitions of 1994 and 1996. At the same time, the party leaders and 1996 presidential hopefuls are attempting to reach out to the broader Jewish community in an effort not to lose their votes, as they seek to win upcoming elections.

The national chairman of the Republican Party Haley Barbour, characterised the attack on Christian fundamentalists as "without doubt an organised political strategy. A cynical organised campaign of Christian bashing." He then went on to appeal to Jewish voters saying that he believed that Republicans "deserve more than (the) 15 per cent" of the Jewish vote that George Bush won in 1988 (recalling that, as a result of neo-conservative support, Ronald Reagan won 33 per cent of the Jewish vote in 1988).

Mr. Barbour went on to pledge strong Republican support for Israel, saying, "I don't think there can be any question that Jerusalem should remain a united city under Israeli sovereignty." The Republican Party chairman also noted that "if you look at most Republicans, you'll see overwhelming support for foreign aid to Israel."

The Democrats have succeeded in creating a national debate over the role that the Christian right wing plays in the Republican Party. But while the expected debate between Democrats and Republicans may now be subsiding, the debate within the Jewish community seems to be far from over. The bottom line in this debate is simple: is support for right wing Israel policy more important to the Jewish community than the social agenda of pluralism, tolerance and liberalism they have long espoused?

"Jordan's official acceptance of all this is tantamount to a recognition of the total Israeli sovereignty on it."

The statement also said that Jordan's "acceptance to becoming a party to the American-Zionist axis without any consideration for inter-Arab relations and regardless of the concessions on the relationship between the government and people of Jordan and the impact on Jordan and the impact on the neighbouring Arab countries on Jordan's security and stability and that of the Arab and Islamic nations."

It was signed by the Jordan Arab Socialist Party, the National Action Front Party, the Jordan Democratic People's Party, the Jordan Communist Party, the Islamic Action Front Party, the Jordan Democratic Socialist Party, the Jordan Democratic Popular Unity Party, the Jordan Arab Democratic Party and the Jordanian Arab Popular Committee for Confronting Concessions and Normalisation of Relations with Israel.

The statement said that the Washington Declaration ends the state of war between Jordan and Israel at a time when Israel is still "occupying our land and stealing our water."

The statement said the government's decisions were not democratic "since they were taken without referring to the Jordanian people nor to their representatives in Parliament nor to the political parties."

The statement said the Washington Declaration ends the state of war between Jordan and Israel at a time when Israel is still "occupying our land and stealing our water."

Moreover, the declaration gave Israel new concessions, including security coordination, joint economic projects and a share of Jordanian waters, including the Yarmouk River water. It also ignored the refugee problem," the statement said.

It added that Jordan had accepted Israeli claims to religious sovereignty of the holy places, abandoned national and Islamic sovereignty over these places, and ignored Palestinian sovereignty.

In any case there are many who claim the Islamic holy sites: Saudi Arabia, the PLO, the king of Morocco who is chairman of the Al Quds committee of the Arab League and Jordan."

He telephoned King Hassan of Morocco, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa and Prince Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz, Saudi Arabia's defence minister, a Palestinian official told AFP.

Mr. Arafat initially welcomed the Israeli-Jordanian declaration ending 46 years of war.

But the Palestinian authority's news agency WAFA later put out a statement in Gaza denouncing the declaration on Jordanian rights in the holy city.

"Any attempt to exclude the Palestinian leadership and Yasser Arafat in particular from the negotiations on Jerusalem can only harm the peace process," said Sufian Abu Zeida, a Gaza City official of Mr. Arafat's Fatah group.

Mr. Arafat on Tuesday defended the recognition statement.

## Deputies reaffirm support

(Continued from page 1)

terest. We should not ask Jordan to do what is beyond its powers and capacities," he said. He described the King's initiative as wise and courageous.

Deputy Nader Dheirat said Jordan's decision to hold talks with Israel was not a Jordanian decision only, but was backed by Arab consensus. Jordan's peace drive is meant to restore Jordanian water and territorial rights and to demarcate the Jordanian boundaries.

Member of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Sand Al Adwan blessed the King's step describing it as "daring and courageous" and wished King Hussein every success in his efforts and continuous endeavours to achieve what he aspired for to serve his own people and the Arab Nation.

The King, in his joint conference with President Clinton and Mr. Rabin after addressing Congress on Tuesday, said Jordan was alerted to the possibility of terrorist attacks like those waged in London yesterday and in Argentina last week.

"But in the final analysis," said a senior Jordanian official, "the threat of violence cannot stop a country, especially like ours, from seizing the right moment and moving forward towards a better and more secure future."

In a statement issued Monday Al Adwan said Jordan had never been absent from the scene of events in the region,

## Sharaa: No 'real' peace without Syria

(Continued from page 1)

But it criticised Jordan and claimed there was much popular and political opposition in the Kingdom to the agreement.

An Iraqi newspaper said the U.S. is committing a mistake by "forcing" Arab countries to make peace with Israel.

Senior Jordanian officials insist that no undue concessions were made to the Israelis through signing the Washington Declaration. Israel was basically after ending its isolation in the

hostilities so long as (Arab) rights are trampled on by the enemy," it said, adding that it would "continue the fight whatever the cost to recover all Arab rights."

In Tehran, Iran state radio said the peace declaration would not succeed in ending conflict in the Middle East.

It warned peace accords with Israel could "not alone save the region from war and crisis" and that such agreements "would lead to new tension between people and compromising Arab leaders."

Libya joined in the attacks on the Jordanian-Israeli deal, saying it was a blow for the Palestinians.

The signing of the accord between Israel and Jordan is yet another step on the road to liquidating the Palestinian cause," said the country's ministry of Arab affairs.

"This accord comes as Israel is continuing its aggression against the Arabs and its bombardment of South Lebanon. It contradicts the U.N. Charter, which does not allow the recognition of the occupation of territory by force."

Newspapers in Tripoli, which rejects the Arab-Israeli peace process, also condemned the deal.

## Jordan says Jerusalem role unpoliticised

(Continued from page 1)

leaders for support on the Palestinian claim to Jerusalem.

Mr. Arafat contacted Arab leaders in a bid to rally support behind his objection to Israel's acknowledgement of Jordanian rights over Muslim sites in Jerusalem.

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Mr. Arafat on Tuesday defended the recognition statement.

"My religious faith demands that sovereignty over the holy places in Jerusalem reside with God and God alone. Dialogue between the faiths should be strengthened, religious sovereignty should be accorded to all believers of the three Abrahamic faiths in accordance with their religions. In this way, Jerusalem will become the symbol of peace and its embodiment, as it must be for both Palestinians and Israelis when their negotiations determine the final status of Arab east Jerusalem."

The fundamentalists issued a statement giving Israel until Friday evening to respond to the first such offer by Hamas.

Soldier Ilan Saadon was abducted as he hitch-hiked on May 3, 1989, murdered and his corpse buried somewhere on the strip.

Hamas claimed responsibility but said those who knew where he was buried had gone into exile.

"We declare our readiness to give back the body of Israeli soldiers Ilan Saadon who was kidnapped and killed by one of our armed units in 1989 in return for the release of Hamas leaders."

Senior Shiite cleric Obeid was seized from his South Lebanon home by Israeli commandos in July 1989. Israel also kidnapped Mr. Dirani, a Lebanese fundamentalist chief.

# News

By Dr. James Zogby  
nentalism

the ADL which is responding to anti-Israel and anti-Semitic rant," and that their "pro-social agenda on issues like abortion rights and the rights of men and homosexuals... is dangerous," claims Steve Greenblatt, president of the American Jewish Democratic Committee. "Most of us in it are standing up and saying 'no' to our support for Israel, we are understandably misinformed."

The greatest friends the conservative Christians and Orthodox social and moral issues," accusing many in his community of bigotry." William Kristol, editor of the neo-conservative magazine *The Weekly Standard*, said self-destructive for conservatives.

In the Jewish community, the ADL report, the Republicans decided not to distance themselves from electoral ambitions of the party leaders and attempted to reach out to the coming elections.

The Republican Party has stuck to Christian fundamentalist political strategy. A Christian bashing." He then says that he believes more than 15 per cent of Bush won in 1988, reflecting support, Ronald Reagan's vote in 1988.

strong Republican support there can be any question of a united city under Israeli Party chairman also now Americans, you'll see overwhelming support for Israel."

In creating a nation Christian right wing plays in the expected debate between may now be subsiding, a unity seems to be far from simple: is support important to the idea of pluralism, tolerance and exposed?

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The statement also is that Jordan's "acceptance becoming a party to the American-Zionist axis" is out any consideration of inter-Arab relations regardless of the relationship between government and people. Jordan and the impact Jordan's relations will have on neighbouring Arab countries will have negative consequences on Jordan's security and stability and that of Arab and Islamic nations.

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## King: Jordan has always sought a bold peace in the Mideast

The following is the address to the joint session of U.S. Congress that His Majesty King Hussein made July 26, 1994 in Washington D.C.

IT IS an honour for me to stand before you, the representatives of the great American nation, on this historic occasion. We have now become partners in shaping the future of all our peoples. We seek for them a future of peace, stability and security, the prospects for which, are growing before our eyes. It is a heart-warming sight for those of us who have continuously pursued this goal throughout our lives.

We in Jordan have always sought a bold peace. We have been conscious of our responsibilities towards the coming generations — to ensure that they will have the certainty of leading a dignified and fulfilled life. We have sought a peace that can harness their creative energies, to allow them to realise their true potential and build their future with confidence, devoid of fear and uncertainty.

None of this can be achieved without establishing a direct dialogue at the highest level of leadership. This meeting in Washington, at the invitation of President Clinton represents the beginning of a new phase in our common journey towards peace between Jordan and Israel. It is a milestone on the road towards comprehensive peace in our region.

This meeting was preceded by a trilateral Jordanian-American-Israeli meeting at which my brother, Crown Prince Hassan, represented myself and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres represented Israel. The trilateral working group was established under an agreement completed at that meeting hosted by President Clinton at the White House in October 1993.

Following my recent visit to the United States, in light of the status of negotiations, I decided to share with my people the realities affecting our search for peace. In a meeting with members of our Parliament, I addressed the entire Jordanian nation. I have been rewarded by their approval and support.

Their expression of confidence has always been the foremost consideration in my life. All of Jordan is here with me today.

We also remember today the three generations of gallant Jordanians and so many others who sacrificed themselves for the cause of Palestine. Every household in Jordan has sent a son to answer the Arab call. Many have not returned. Their sacrifices have made it possible for me to be here today.

What we are witnessing today, God willing, is a progression from a state of war to a state of peace. These unique circumstances allow us to

Great Arab Revolt for freedom, independence and unity, lies buried next to the blessed Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. I was by the side of my grandfather, King Abdullah, at the doors of Al Aqsa Mosque when he was martyred. He was a man of peace who gave his life for this ideal. I have pledged my life to fulfilling his dream. He too is here today.

Mr. Speaker,

In our meeting today I hope you will find a clear message to the American nation and to the world. We are together committed to work tirelessly to banish forever the abnormal conditions which have dominated our people's lives.

We want normality and humanity to become the prevailing order.

Although we have laboured for so long under conditions of hostility, I am certain that we can see these conditions for what they are: embittered of an unnatural and sinister state. We have all known the portents of this state: the fear of death, the silence of isolation. And we have all felt the fear that has mesmerised us, preventing us from moving forward to create together a bright future for the coming generations.

I come before you today as a soldier who seeks to bear arms solely in the defence of his homeland, a man who understands the fears of his neighbours, and who wishes only to live in peace with them, a man who wishes to secure democracy,

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# Business & Finance

Wednesday, July 27, 1994  
in business  
growth  
of state

Financial Markets Jordan Times  
in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets		
Currency	New York Close Date 25/7/94	Tokyo Close Date 26/7/94
Sterling Pound*	1.5304	1.5320
Deutsche Mark	1.5895	1.5886
Swiss Franc	1.3480	1.3490
French Franc	5.4275	5.4380**
Japanese Yen	98.55	98.70
European Currency Unit	1.2100	1.2022**

Foreign Exchange Rates Date: 26/7/1994				
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	4.18	4.56	5.00	5.50
Sterling Pound	4.87	5.00	5.31	5.93
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.87
Swiss Franc	4.00	4.06	4.12	4.37
French Franc	5.25	5.37	5.56	5.75
Japanese Yen	7.87	8.00	8.00	2.25
European Currency Unit	5.75	5.81	6.00	6.25

Interest bid rate for amounts exceeding 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 26/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6940	0.6960
Sterling Pound	1.0619	1.0672
Deutsche Mark	0.4362	0.4384
Swiss Franc	0.5139	0.5165
French Franc	0.1278	0.1284
Japanese Yen*	0.7018	0.7053
Dutch Guilder	0.3692	0.3911
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira*	0.0440	0.0442
Belgian Franc	*****	*****

\* Per 100

Other Currencies Date: 26/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahrain Dinar	1.8250	1.8380
Lebanese Lira*	0.040385	0.041975
Saudi Riyal	0.1447	0.1462
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.3150	2.3700
Qatari Riyal	0.1884	0.1893
Egyptian Pound	0.2040	0.2250
Omani Riyal	1.7830	1.8200
UAE Dirham	0.1884	0.1893
Greek Drachma*	0.2625	0.3135
Cypriot Pound	1.3885	1.4515

\* Per 100

## Egypt selling stake in big hotel

CAIRO (R) — The public-sector company which owns the 547-room Cairo Sheraton Hotel has agreed to sell 40 per cent of it to a private Egyptian-registered firm for about \$70 million, the man in charge said today.

The sale will be the largest to the private sector in the tourism sector since a

Egyptian government began its slow-moving privatisation programme in the early 1990s.

Hamed Fahmy, chairman of the state's Housing, Tourism and Cinema Holding Company, said the general assembly of the company Eglo approved the deal at a meeting last week. Eglo is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the holding company.

The private company, the Arab Investment Company for Touristic Development, will have a 40 per cent stake. Eglo will retain 58 per cent and the holding company the remaining two per cent of the equity in a company which will own the hotel.

"Now we are preparing the documents for making this company, the general assembly gave us a period of two months to end this process," Mr. Fahmy told Reuters.

## Asian markets battle for bond market status — report

HONG KONG (AFP) — A close battle is being fought between Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand for the position of the leading Asian bond market.

A latest world bond market survey conducted by Julius Baer Investment Ltd., an investment vehicle of Switzerland's private banking institution Baer Group, showed Hong Kong's bond market ranked 23rd out of 32

markets surveyed, just behind Singapore and Malaysia at joint 21st.

Thailand followed in 24th place, said the firm which has had its regional headquarters in Hong Kong since 1985.

The survey said that out of a total possible ranking score of 100, there is just one point between the four bond markets, with Singapore and Malaysia scoring 55 and Hong Kong and Thailand 54, Taiwan and South Korea had

43 and 38 respectively.

However, Julius Baer Investment said they still fell short of the standards necessary for institutional investment.

It added that the U.S. Treasury market remained the world's deepest and most liquid bond market, retaining its top position in the survey for the third year running.

France was second followed by Germany, Japan and Britain.

## EU helps technology transfer to Arab Gulf states

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The European Union (EU) has finally agreed to help the transfer of technology to Arab Gulf states which have been striving for this goal to build an industrial base and diversify their oil-reliant economies. Gulf officials said Tuesday.

The EU has agreed to include the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states in its "investment programme" which supports joint small and medium enterprises between the two sides, according to Abdullah Al Quwaiz, GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs.

In a letter to chambers of commerce and industries in member states, Sheikh Quwaiz urged businessmen to benefit from the programme, which he said would positively affect ECC economies and upgrade manpower skills.

The programme provides good opportunities for GCC businesses. Several Arab countries have benefited from it and the GCC now has such an opportunity as it has just been included in the programme," he said.

"It aims to develop trade between the two sides and transfer technology to Gulf countries. It will support all projects that prove they will effectively contribute to boosting technical cooperation between the partners."

Sheikh Quwaiz said the programme, which also envisages financing of projects by EU banks, covered industry, agriculture, mining and services. He said such projects would be managed by EU shareholders.

"This is because it is targeting small and medium-sized ventures, which have a long-term nature. This will enable them to contribute to supporting the economies of the host countries," said Mr. Quwaiz, a Saudi.

Experts said the EU move partially met repeated requests by states for the setting up of joint industrial projects to obtain technology needed for their attempts to diversify income sources away from volatile oil earnings.

They noted the EU and the two other main economic partners of the GCC — the United States and Japan — appeared to be still reluctant to commit themselves to major industrial ventures in the region on the grounds it is a small market.

GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — have offered stable and long-term crude supplies to their industrial partners in return for technology.

Several meetings between them, however, have not produced results.

Reluctance by those three major industrial powers to help the GCC technologically have drawn sharp criticism from member states, which argue they do not want to be regarded as a mere consumer market.

GCC imports from the EU, the U.S. and Japan exceeded \$40 billion in 1993, more than half its total imports. The GCC is also their biggest oil supplier, exporting to them more than 60 per cent of its crude output.

GCC and Japanese officials and businessmen are due to meet again in Tokyo late this year.

"There is no doubt the inclusion of Gulf states in the EU investment programme will help them acquire technology. But the GCC apparently wants more as small and medium industries will not be enough for their bid to diversify the economy," a Gulf economist said.

## Crisis converts Turks into sharp-witted investors

ISTANBUL (R) — Keep your stacks of lire or dollars stuffed in a bag, be quick on your feet and with a bit of luck you can make fortunes in rollercoaster Turkish markets.

Turks, who happily overspent on cars, imported luxury goods and real estate in the last few years, are channelling funds to financial instruments to protect their savings from runaway three-digit inflation brought on by a severe economic crisis.

Banks and foreign exchange shops are always filled with people trying to spot the latest trends in the dollar, treasury bills, deposit rates and the stock exchange.

Old pensioners walk in and out of banks and brokerage houses, hunting for the day's best investment alternative.

Too often, they get caught.

"You need to follow the markets at all the time, otherwise you lose your money. Things change very fast," said an old woman, with eyes glued to flashing dollar rates in an Istanbul foreign exchange bureau.

Last year, investors fell over one another in a rush to buy stocks, which had risen by a meteoric 435 per cent.

Since its Jan. 13 peak, the Istanbul index lost 69 per cent.

The economic crisis since January has ruined the financial situation of many Turks.

For those who have some savings on the side, the trick is to protect them from random market swings.

Investors were wrong-footed in January when the lira was devalued 12 per cent against the dollar only days after Prime Minister Tansu Ciller urged them to rely on the lira. Several small-scale devaluations followed.

The dollar, which the government kept undervalued for years, suddenly broke free in April, jumping to 40,000 lire from 32,000 the day after Ms. Ciller announced a package of bold austerity measures to put the shaky economy on track.

But the dollar's magic did not last very long, just as it was filling out the wallets of almost every Turk. In May, it slipped to 29,000.

Now it's back around 31,000 against the end-1993 rate of 14,900.

Many were also caught out by interest rates. Last year, the treasury convinced Turks interest rates were heading downwards. The opposite happened. Many investors holding bills yielding about 80 per cent saw overnight rates climb to 1,000 per cent.

"The trick is to stay liquid in times of crisis. Even if I know I'll get a diamond, I wouldn't tie my money on

anything," said Sadik Ipek, chief dealer at Garanti brokerage house.

Not everyone agrees.

These days, the new hit is the "Super T-Bill" — a three-month treasury bond which yields an annual compounded return of 406 per cent, against an inflation rate of 117 per cent.

Investors queued outside banks for days to buy the bills and the treasury, itself hungry for funds after a five-month break to borrowing, issued 40 trillion lire of them.

"The dollar is not going up anymore. I want to buy some of the super T-bills," said Lutfi Tenekci, a state pensioner.

But the return on T-bills is no longer quite so lucrative.

The government has recently trimmed the interest rates back to 114.5 per cent from 200 per cent at the beginning of June.

To invest in super T-bills, many Turks resorted to selling their cars and property, even though prices have plunged in the last months due to the recession.

Others were riding against the tide of the market.

"Cars are very cheap. I am buying cars and selling them after a few rides. This way, I can enjoy myself and make a profit at the same time," said Ceyhun Kursali, an engineer.

"It aims to develop trade between the two sides and transfer technology to Gulf countries. It will support all projects that prove they will effectively contribute to boosting technical cooperation between the partners."

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## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs	Canadian dollar


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## GOODWILL GAMES

**Joyner-Kersee wins heptathlon title; Mitchel wins 100m, becomes a star**

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) — Jackie Joyner-Kersee struggled to her third straight Goodwill Games heptathlon title Tuesday, while Mike Powell and Nouredine Morelli won their events.

Joyner-Kersee, the world record-holder, overcame a bad case of asthma to win the heptathlon with 6,606 points — her lowest total since 1984.

She had trouble breathing as she completed the final event, the 800 metres, as soon as she crossed the finish line, she doubled over and tried to catch her breath. Her coach and husband, Bob Kersee, rushed over and pounded her on the back to help her breathe.

"When the weather got cooler, it kicked up some pollen and dust," Joyner-Kersee said later. "In the home stretch, I was feeling so hot I wanted to pull my top down. I couldn't breathe. I'm glad it's over."

Joyner-Kersee had built a 109-point lead after Monday's first four events. After Tuesday's long jump, javelin and 800 metres, she finished 114 points ahead of runner-up Larisa Turchinitskaya of Russia. Ghada Shouaa of Syria was third.

**AIBA chief Choudhry smiles at last**

ST. PETERSBURG (R) — For the first time in several years International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA) President Anwar Choudhry can allow himself the luxury of a relaxed smile.

After a series of crises which at one stage looked like pushing the sport off the Olympic timetable, Amateur Boxing looks safe for the time being.

It is a far cry from the dark days of October 1988 when International Olympic Committee (IOC) head Juan Antonio Samaranch announced that boxing's future as on Olympic sport was under review.

He was speaking in the wake of the boxing tournament at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, marred by several highly controversial judging decisions.

Choudhry introduced a series of sweeping changes designed to improve safety

Joyner-Kersee, the American record-holder in the women's long jump and the second-longest performer in history, withdrew from Thursday's long jump competition. Her husband said she would be too physically spent after the heptathlon to compete in the long jump.

Powell, the world record-holder, won the long jump on his sixth and final attempt with a leap of 8.45 metres (27 feet, 8 3/4). He fouled three times and appeared to be suffering from a hamstring injury, but came through when he needed to. Fellow American Erick Walder was second in 8.39 (27 6 1/2).

Carl Lewis did not compete in the long jump, having pulled out after running the 100-metres Monday.

World record-holder Morelli of Algeria pulled away on the last lap to win the mile in 3:48.67. The fastest time of the year. After crossing the finish line, he dropped to his knees on the track, spread out his arms and made the victory sign with both hands.

In beach volleyball action Tuesday, Norway's Jan Kvialheim and Bjoern Nasseid won the men's gold medal by beating the U.S. team of Jeff Williams and

Carlos Briceño 12-8, 12-6. The women's gold was won by the U.S. team of Karolyne Kirby and Liz Massakayan of San Diego, who downed Brazil's Monica Rodrigues and Auriana Samul 12-9, 12-1.

"This has been our no. 1 goal all year," said Massakayan, who along with Kirby won the five world series titles earlier this year, "this is the first major event we've had in the sport and is similar to what we are going to see in the future at the Olympic Games."

Beach volleyball will make its debut at the 1996 Games in Atlanta. "Winning the gold in Atlanta is our ultimate goal," Kirby said.

In another U.S.-Brazil matchup, Americans Lori Forsythe and Barbara Fontana beat Maria Salgado and Roseli Timm of Brazil 15-8 for the bronze medal.

The star of Monday's track competition was Dennis Mitchell, the "Green Machine," who won the men's 100-metres. Now he wants to cash in.

"I feel like a million dollars," Dennis Mitchell said after beating a marquee field Monday night that included Leroy Burrell and Carl Lewis. "I wish I had a million

dollars."

Mitchell might not collect that right away, but he's certainly in a strong position to demand big money for appearing at lucrative brand mixt meets in Europe this summer.

Zurich and Cologne will be bigger races than this," he said. "There is a lot of money walking around in the 100 metres this year, and I want to get a big piece of it."

Mitchell's coach, John Smith, said he will set to it that the 28-year-old sprinter is well rewarded by big meet promoters.

"When an athlete is running well, they want him," Smith said. "Dennis is running extremely well. He's a streak runner, and he's catching fire now."

Originally, Mitchell wasn't even invited by Goodwill Games organisers. He was asked to compete only after Britain's Linford Christie, the Olympic and world champion, withdrew because of a hamstring injury.

"They signed everybody but him," Smith said of Mitchell. "He was angry. It was a disgrace. They couldn't run the race without him."

**Spurs to renew chase for Hagi**

LONDON (AP) — Troubled English soccer club Tottenham is reported to be certain to renew its bid for Romanian World Cup star Cheong Hagi after the collapse of his negotiations with Barcelona.

Hagi, who is currently tied to Italian club Brescia, was expected to move to Barcelona for £2 million (\$3 million), but the deal has fallen through.

"There is still a very good deal from Tottenham on offer," his business manager said in London's Evening Standard newspaper.

Tottenham is desperate to boost its playing quality after being severely punished and handicapped by the Football Association when it was found guilty in May of making

irregular payments to players several years ago. The club was banned from this season's F.A. Cup, fined £600,000 (\$900,000) and had 12 points deducted from its total at the start of this season, which was later reduced to six.

Hagi, 29, was one of the genuine greats at the World Cup and was a big reason behind Romania's charge to the quarterfinals, where it lost to Sweden in a penalty shootout.

The midfielder will be a great boost for Spurs manager Ossie Ardiles who failed in a £2 million (\$3 million) bid for Brazilian defender Marcio Santos last week.

**Pakistan facing world soccer ban**

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP)

World football governing body FIFA is being urged to suspend Pakistan after rival footballing factions sent national teams to an Asian youth qualifying tournament.

"We are not amused by this at all," said Peter Velappan, general-secretary of the Asian Football Confederation, who has recommended suspension to FIFA.

Pakistan has a formidable history of squabbling and this is not the first time that we have had to intervene,"

Pakistan national federation President Mian Mohammad Azhar and his rival General-Secretary Hafiz Salman Butt picked their own teams for the Asian under-19 championship qualifying tournament in the United Arab Emirates.

Velappan said the Pakistan

football's executive committee voted to suspend Butt for six months but Butt replied by suspending the Azhar, saying his removal was unconstitutional.

"We have accepted (Azhar's) team for the tournament as representing Pakistan. I believe Butt's team has flown back to Karachi," said Velappan, adding the two Pakistani teams had arrived on the same flight from Karachi.

The AFC is pressing for

Pakistan's suspension "until they can resolve all of their internal problems and hold proper elections for officers," said Velappan.

FIFA's concern is likely to be heightened because both officials have started court action in Pakistan challenging one another.

**France's Delaire upsets Rafter in Toronto tournament**

TORONTO (AP) — Australian Patrick Rafter, ranked 22nd in the world, lost to little-known Olivier Delaire of France 5-2, 6-3, 6-3 Monday, the first upset at the \$1.7-million U.S. Player's Ltd. international tennis tournament.

In other matches Monday, Britain's Jeremy Bates, No. 13 seed, Aaron Krickstein, defeated fellow American Jeff Tarango 6-2, 6-2, 6-1; American Chuck Adams defeated Martin Damm of the Czech Republic 3-6, 6-2, 6-3; Nigeria's Sule Ladipo eliminated American Jonathan Stark 7-5, 6-4; Sweden's Thomas Enqvist downed Austrian Alex Antonitsch 6-1, 4-6, 7-5; and Italian Stefano Peccolo defeated France's Lionel Rout 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (7-3).

**NEWS IN BRIEF****Leeds set deadline for Skuhravy deal**

LONDON (R) — English premier league club Leeds have almost given up hope of signing Genoa's Czech international striker Tomas Skuhravy. Leeds Managing Director Bill Fotherby Monday extended the deadline for a deal until 1600 GMT Tuesday but admitted: "I will be surprised if the transfer goes ahead." After eight hours of negotiations with the Italian club's President Aldo Spinelli, Fotherby revealed a last-minute hitch had left the three million pounds sterling (\$4.5 million) transfer in jeopardy. "We have agreed everything with Skuhravy and Genoa but there is a financial complication between the player and his club," he said. "If it is not resolved the transfer cannot go ahead."

**Moroccan player joins Sporting Lisbon**

NANTES, France (AFP) — Moroccan international Nourdin Naybet has signed a three-year contract with Portuguese club Sporting Lisbon, officials of his French first-division club Nantes said. Sporting paid just under 9 million francs (\$1.6 million) for the 24-year-old Veja.

They would sue the soccer confederation for non-payment of the duties. A host of top government officials pointed fingers and denied they gave the order to wave through the baggage.

Only one player, midfielder Mauro Silva, offered to pay his share.

Nationwide polls showed 79 per cent of Brazilians thought their heroes should have paid up.

But few — not even Attorney General Aristides Juncos — actually think the team will be beaten in court.

"No one has a list of what was actually brought in," he said. "It's foolish to think you can win an action like this without any proof."

Amen, say the saints of soccer.

"It was such a little thing," Romario said. "Why is everybody making such a big deal about this?"

**Rugby player cleared of killing**

LONDON (AP) — The first Rugby Union player in the 171-year history of the game to be accused of killing a rival on the field, has been acquitted by a court. William Hardy, 25, was charged with the manslaughter of Seamus Lavelle as a result of a clash during an amateur match in March last year. Lavelle died of head injuries two days after the incident, in which Hardy had allegedly "poleaxed" him with an uppercut to the jaw. Hardy did not dispute he lasted out at 16-stone forward Lavelle during the ill-tempered encounter between his club Centaurs and Hensdon. However, his claim of self-defence was accepted by an Old Bailey jury. Hardy said afterwards, "I am relieved i have been cleared but I shall carry on grieving for him. I am still upset someone has died."

**Rugby star fined for punch**

CHALON-SUR-SAONE, France (AP) — Former French rugby captain Laurent Rodriguez was fined 6,000 francs (\$900) for punching an opponent and breaking his jaw here on Tuesday. Rodriguez was charged with knocking out Pascal Picamet during a match between U.S. Dix and RC Chalon September 26. The prosecutor had also called for a 15-day suspended jail sentence but the court decided the offence should not go down on Rodriguez's record after hearing he was not a violent player and had shown remorse. The judge was told the clubs were back on friendly terms and Picamet and RC Chalon had withdrawn their complaint. Rodriguez played 55 internationals, including six as captain.

**Olympic medallists turn professional**

TORONTO (AP) — Canadians Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler, ice dance bronze medallists in the Lillehammer and Albertville Winter Olympics, announced here Tuesday they were quitting competition to concentrate on a professional career. Brasseur, 23, and Eisler, 32, became world champions in 1987, were also four-time Canadian champions.

**Blackburn star's injury misery**

LONDON (AP) — England international midfielder David Batty will be out of action for three months with a broken bone in his right foot. Batty, bought by Blackburn Rovers for \$2.75 million from English Premiership rivals Leeds United last season, will have an operation later this week. Meanwhile, defenders Sol Campbell and Stuart Netherton and midfieler David Howells have all signed new four-year deals for their club, Tottenham Hotspur.



Brazilian national soccer players Bebeto (left), Ricardo Rocha (centre) and Romario (right) pose with their honour trophy received

legation arrived in Rio close to midnight Tuesday for a four-hour ticker-tape parade for an estimated 1 million fans.

Brazilian law permits citizens to bring up to \$500 worth of items purchased abroad into the country duty free.

That's why customs officials got suspicious when five, 30-foot (10-metre) moving trucks rolled up to drive the team's luggage to the hotel.

The unloading took time. Among other things were 18 television sets, computers, refrigerators, fax machines, dot printers, microwave ovens, gymnasium equipment, a barbecue grill, dishwashers and even a leather horse saddle.

Customs officials estimated that defectors Jorginho and Branco brought back a combined total of \$8,800 in electronics and housewares. Coach Carlos Alberto Parreira had \$5,000 worth of computer and TV equipment.

All in all, about \$1 million

in duties had to be paid.

Lopes Filho ordered the baggage held and inspected.

Ricardo Teixeira, the confederation president, called the stars down from the fire truck that would escort them through Rio. They removed the merit medals awarded at the presidential palace and threatened to boycott the parade.

"We didn't smuggle anything," said striker Romario.

"We represented Brazil before 2 billion people around the world. If they don't release my luggage, I'm giving back my medal."

It was midnight. In any other country the victory parade might have been postponed until morning. But in the land where soccer is almost a religion, a call came from the presidential palace.

The order from Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero: Let the baggage through, un-inspected. Let the party go on.

"That goal scored by Branco to break the 2-2 tie against the Netherlands was worth a

billion more than lousy refrigerator or a TV," Teixeira told the newsweekly.

Ricardo Teixeira said the stars had been warned.

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But few — not even Attorney General Aristides Juncos — actually think the team will be beaten in court.

"No one has a list of what was actually brought in," he said. "It's foolish to think you can win an action like this without any proof."

Amen, say the saints of soccer.

"It was such a little thing," Romario said. "Why is everybody making such a big deal about this?"

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# Sports

## Simpson lawyers plead for samples of blood for independent testing

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — O.J. Simpson's lawyers and prosecutors sparred Monday over control over blood samples, with the defense demanding the right to independently analyse blood found at the murder scene and Simpson's home.

The judge first proposed a compromise, then postponed a decision on the matter.

"This goes to Mr. Simpson's right to due process, to equal protection, to have a fair look at the evidence so we can present our case to a jury in a fair manner," said defense attorney Robert Shapiro.

The request was made at a hearing that marked Simpson's first appearance before superior court judge Lance Ito, the judge assigned last week to hear Simpson's trial.

The judge declined to rule Monday, saying he needed testimony from expert witnesses on how much blood is needed for prosecutors to have proper tests. Another hearing was set for Friday.

"I sense that this is critical evidence in the case," he said. "The record is not complete here. I do not have enough scientific evidence to make a ruling at this point."

He proposed giving the defense access to 10 per cent of the samples, but delayed his decision after deputy district attorney Marcia Clark told him: "You are taking evidence out of our hands forever."

He did allow prosecutors to begin testing some blood Thursday at a lab in Maryland, two days later than planned to give a defense expert time to get there to participate in the procedure. It left until later a decision on how to handle leftover samples.

Prosecutors hope so-called genetic DNA fingerprinting and other tests on blood and other physical evidence can tie the former football star to the June 12 deaths of his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Defense lawyers hope independent tests will cast doubt on Simpson's guilt.

The test results are to be compared with blood and hair samples taken from Simpson, 47, who has pleaded innocent to two counts of first-degree murder.

"What (defence) counsel is really trying to do is compromise the evidence," he said.

Shapiro specifically asked for samples of blood drops found at Ms. Simpson's home, blood on a glove at the condo, blood drops on the driveway and in the foyer of Simpson's estate, blood on



O.J. Simpson

the glove found behind his son and smudges on Simpson's Bronco.

Clark strongly objected to the request, saying in some cases there wasn't enough blood to share without affecting the outcome of the highly sensitive DNA tests for genetic makeup.

"What (defence) counsel is really trying to do is compromise the evidence," he said.

Even in a hearing on a subject as dry as scientific testing, there were sharp clashes between the prosecution and defence.

Shapiro called prosecutors "hypocritical" in their con-

cern for the glove found behind his son and smudges on Simpson's Bronco.

Housing sites will generally conform to ACOG's list of sports venues, set mainly near the Georgia cities of Atlanta, Savannah and Athens.

Guest rates for homes range from \$150 per bedroom per night for a 14-day stay in a house with a tax-assessed value of up to \$110,000 to \$425 per bedroom in homes valued at up to \$600,000.

And the man who won 106 caps and played an inspirational role in the English World Cup victory of 1966, admitted: "I was far more nervous than when I was playing for England."

He insisted that he should be called Sir Bobby rather than the more formal Sir Robert.

The former Manchester United player, now a club director, added: "The Queen was very charming. It was a wonderful day and this is a tremendous honour."

"You can't plan for being honoured and this is for the game of football really."

Sir Bobby, 56, survived the 1958 Munich air disaster in which several of his Manchester United teammates died and his record of 49 goals for England still stands.

tention they wanted to preserve evidence because they themselves had used up some of one sample before the preliminary hearing.

Clark offered to let the defense's own expert conduct some of the tests as long as a prosecution expert witnessed the procedures. The defense didn't respond to the offer.

It's, however, every move will be closely scrutinised in the highly publicised case, handled the hearing in a relayed, businesslike fashion, even joking he was a little out of his league in discussing DNA testing since the kind of science to be studied in college was political scientists call DNA — deoxyribonucleic acid — defines each individual's unique genetic code. Some scientists greatest forensic breakthrough since fingerprinting. Others argue it is subject to contamination and laboratory error and cannot be trusted.

Defence lawyers also planned to ask prosecutors Monday to turn over nearly all their reports and leads. They claim that prosecutors were so eager to bag a celebrity, they overlooked information that would exonerate Simpson.

They asked for police reports on prowlers and burglaries in Ms. Simpson's neighbourhood in the six months before the slayings; a search of computer records for a match to unidentified fingerprints from the slaying scene; police reports of similar unsolved killings in the state over the past year; and criminal histories of everyone involved in the case.

They also asked to see reports of any internal investigations involving detectives assigned to the case and hospital records on anyone bitten by a dog in the 24 hours after the deaths. Ms. Simpson's dog led a neighbour to the bodies.

## Schumacher stunned by 2-race ban

**PARIS (AFP)** — German driver Michael Schumacher was stunned here Tuesday as Formula One racing body FIA banned him from two Grand Prix and handed him a six-point penalty.

The decision follows a controversial black flag incident in the British Grand Prix earlier this month — and looks set to throw the drivers' championship wide open.

Runaway leader Schumacher, who is now left with 66 points to British driver Damon Hill's 39, is almost certain to appeal against the verdict, which would allow him to drive in his home Grand Prix at Hockenheim Sunday.

But the Benetton Ford star would then have to look on from the sidelines at the Hungarian (August 14) and Belgian (August 28) races, where Hill could pick up a maximum of 20 points and reignite the season.

Schumacher, already fined \$25,000 for the incident, was accused of ignoring a five-second stop-and-go penalty, followed by a black flag, at Silverstone July 10 after he had overtaken Hill on the warm-up lap.

The black flag meant disqualification but Benetton team chief Flavio Briatore — whose team have been fined \$50,000 — convinced the race marshals there had been a misunderstanding.

He explained Schumacher did not realise he had to stop and believed the penalty would be added onto his time at the end of the race.

The German was forced into the pits but then allowed to continue, eventually finishing second — earning the six points which have now been docked — almost 19secs behind Hill.

FIA president Max Mosley said: "Schumacher said he did not see the black flag. The world council found this explanation unacceptable."

Schumacher, who won six out of this season's eight races, is desperate to race at the German Grand Prix. He came third at Hockenheim two years ago and took



German Formula One driver Michael Schumacher (right), flanked by Benetton's manager, Flavio Briatore, arrive Tuesday at the International Automobile Federation (FIA) headquarters after being summoned by



Special World Council after Britain's Grand Prix in Silverstone. Below, Britain's Formula One Pilot Damon Hill arrives also at the FIA headquarters (AFP photos)

## Atlanta sets up housing for Olympic visitors

**ATLANTA (R)** — A local property coalition Monday was given the job of assembling a network of thousands of private homes and apartments for lease to visitors during the 1996 Olympic Games.

The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), the private non-profit group charged with

organising the Olympics, named Private Housing 1996 Inc. as the official private housing coordinator.

Private Housing 1996, a corporation formed by leading Atlanta real estate brokers and property developers, will put together an initial housing inventory offering 6,000 beds to the so-called extended Olympic family, in-

cluding journalists and business sponsors.

Meeting the needs of the Olympic family is our first priority. Beyond that, however, the door is wide open to assemble an even larger inventory of homes and apartments for lease to the general public when tickets go on sale next spring, Private Housing 96 President Jerry Warshaw said.

Even in a hearing on a subject as dry as scientific testing, there were sharp clashes between the prosecution and defence.

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"You can't plan for being honoured and this is for the game of football really."

Sir Bobby, 56, survived the 1958 Munich air disaster in which several of his Manchester United teammates died and his record of 49 goals for England still stands.

## Bobby gets knighted

**LONDON (AFP)** — Football legend Bobby Charlton was knighted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace Tuesday.

And the man who won 106 caps and played an inspirational role in the English World Cup victory of 1966, admitted: "I was far more nervous than when I was playing for England."

He insisted that he should be called Sir Bobby rather than the more formal Sir Robert.

The former Manchester United player, now a club director, added: "The Queen was very charming. It was a wonderful day and this is a tremendous honour."

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Bobby Charlton

He was accompanied by his wife Norma and daughter Suzanne, a BBC TV weather forecaster, and Andrea.

## Kiwi athlete escapes drugs ban

**WELLINGTON (AFP)** — New Zealand Commonwealth Games hammer thrower Angus Cooper escaped a drugs ban when Athletic New Zealand (ANZ) cleared him of cheating here Monday.

Cooper tested positive for banned substance pseudoephedrine at the national athletic championship of Hamilton in March.

But an ANZ tribunal ruled: "The tribunal was completely satisfied there was no attempt by Cooper to cheat or take a substance that was for the purpose of enhancing his performance."

Cooper took an over-the-counter treatment for cold or flu, the tribunal said.

He took nasal decongestant because he was suffering from a cold during the national championships and advised officials of the medication at the time.

Part of Cooper's defence was that pseudoephedrine was not a substance banned by the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF).

Although the drug is not listed by name, ANZ decided that because it was so closely related to ephedrine, a named banned substance, it fell under the "chemically or pharmacologically related compounds" definition put out by the IAAF.

Under IAAF rules a three-month suspension was immediately imposed when Cooper first tested positive, that ban has now been served and Cooper is able to compete at the Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada, next month.

Cooper will appeal against the ban at the IAAF arbitration panel. He is challenging the classification of pseudoephedrine as a performance-enhancing substance.

ANZ's three-man doping panel originally agreed to keep the names secret because it feared legal appeals.

### FOR RENT

420 sqm ground floor in a villa for rent with garden — furnished or unfurnished.  
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2. Bedroom size: 5.80mX4.5m.  
3. Bedroom size: 4mX4m.  
4. Bathroom  
5. Sitting room (family room) size: 6mX6m. with terrace.  
6. Entrance size: 5mX3m.  
7. Salon size: 14mX6.40m.  
8. Dining room size: 6mX5.5m.  
9. Kitchen size: 8mX5m.  
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11. Big garden with one car garage. Water reservoir 100 cubic metres, electricity operated window shutters.  
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In this issue:  
— Union player in the  
accused of killing a rival  
court. William Hardy,  
of Seafarm Lavelle  
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(AP) — Former

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Tottenham Hotspur.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMARA HIRSCH  
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#### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

with an artificial game-forcing bid of two clubs. What action do you take?

A.—You certainly want to preempt the question is how high? There's no "correct" answer to this; it largely depends on style. One choice could be to bid five hearts and/or the opponents guess what to do at a very high level when they have not yet shown a real suit. Even a full-blooded five hearts would not do you any good!

A.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

\*A922 QJ8765 \*QJ8745 \*A98543

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

Pass 10 Pass 20 Pass

Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—A difficult problem. You have much to say, silent, but no cover bid. Since opponents can pass your call, neither one spade nor two clubs is attractive. The best of a bad bunch is a raise to two hearts, even though you are a trump short for this action. Partner will not be disappointed when you contribute two aces to the cause.

A.—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

\*K982 Q5 10 98 \*QJ108784

Your right-hand opponent bids the bidding—with one diamond.

What action do you take?

A.—If you have any regard for coin of the realm you'll bid. Not much harm can befall you if you overall one spade. The problem comes when the opponents bid on and partner has a reasonable hand. He might get you too high, or double the opponents into game.

Q.—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

\*K9762 Q5 10 98 \*QJ108784

Your right-hand opponent opens

Q.—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

\*K9762 Q5 10 98 \*QJ108784

Your

# Jordan says Oslo talks are no secret, part of multilateral decisions

## Jordan, PLO and Israel draw up terms of reference for regional study

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan on Tuesday rejected the characterisation as secret of a round of talks it held with Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Oslo, Norway, on water and said the meeting was part of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process.

Munther Haddadin, head of Jordan's team negotiating water-sharing in the region, also said the Oslo meeting did not produce any agreement but it approved the terms of reference for a Norwegian sponsored study on water institutions and laws and regulations related to water in the Middle East.

"There is no truth to reports that the meeting produced an agreement," Dr. Haddadin told the Jordan Times. "Nor was the meeting any secret."

He was referring to reports in the Oslo media and also carried by some international agencies which described the talks as secret and implied that the discussions somehow run parallel to the negotiations on regional water-sharing held as part of the 33-month-old Arab-Israeli peace process.

The Norwegian government invited parties involved in the water negotiations to a meeting and we accepted and also contributed to the deliberations and outcome of the meeting," Dr. Haddadin said. "It was not a meeting of the steering group of the multilateral committee," he said.

## Israel-PLO talks resumed

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) met Tuesday in Cairo to discuss transferring control of education and health to Palestinians throughout Israeli-occupied territory.

"It is a test," Nabil Shaath, the Palestinians' chief negotiator, told reporters. "If we succeed today and tomorrow to transfer the authority of education and health... transfer of authority in every field will be easy."

Dr. Shaath referred to such areas as tourism, taxation and social welfare. Under the May accord giving Palestinians limited autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho, transfer of these to PLO control in the rest of the West Bank was to be negotiated.

The talks on transfer of power were held for three days last week with both sides saying they were near agreement on education and would work on health this week.

Riyad Zaanoun, health minister of the new Palestine Nation Authority (PNA) in Gaza and Jericho, said Tuesday that he hoped to convince Israel of the need to adopt a comprehensive health plan throughout the territories.

## 3 detained in connection with Buenos Aires blast

BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — Authorities arrested two men and an Iranian woman Tuesday in the July 18 bombing of a Jewish charity that killed at least 95 people and injured some 250 more, official sources said.

Ten more people were still missing and feared dead, officials said.

The woman was carrying an altered passport when she was arrested at Ezeiza international airport, according to federal police sources quoted by Telam, the state news agency.

One of the men detained reportedly sold the van used in the car bombing of the seven-storey Argentine Jewish Mutual Association building. The identities of the three were not immediately released, and there was no information detailed about the third suspect.

Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella will meet with the U.N. Security Council on Thursday to provide details of the bombing and the investigation under way, officials said. Mr. Di Tella, in a closed-door session, will ask the

added.

Dr. Haddadin said the meeting drew up the terms of reference for conducting a "regional comparative study," as called for by the multilateral group on water when it met last in Muscat, Oman, in April.

Zafer Al Aleem and Ali Ghezawi, both members of the Jordanian delegation to the multilateral group, attended the meeting along with Riyad Al Khodary and Fadil Kawash from the Palestinian side and Avram Katz-Oz and Ilan Baruch of Israel.

A Norwegian press release identified the objective of the study project as providing "the participating parties with an overview of water management bodies, legal issues (such as water laws, rules and regulations), and economic issues (such as water supply economics and pricing)."

"The study will serve as background information for all parties towards enhancement of future regional cooperation in water management," it said. "Results of the study may also assist in the structuring of the newly established Palestinian Water Authority."

"The participation of Syria and Lebanon in particular, and other interested parties in the Middle East would

welcomed."

The initiative is financed and sponsored by the Oslo government and helped by the World Foundation for Environment and Development-Oslo under the leadership of Professor J. Martin Troldalen with assistance from Professor Just Gjessing from the University of Oslo.

"Water is the symbol of progress and development, and we must preserve it as a natural, god-given gift," Prof. Troldalen television, told Norway's NRK. "Giving water away is almost impossible."

Dr. Haddadin emphasised that the workings of the Oslo meeting had no bearing on the bilateral Jordanian-Israeli negotiations on water-sharing. He noted that the two sides held their last meeting in Wadi Araba on their southern border last week.

During that meeting, Israel, for the first time, agreed to discuss Jordan's demand for a fair share of the waters of the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers in the north.

The discussions will resume in early August.

"It's going to be a very important step... to achieve understanding on water between the partners in the Middle East," Israeli delegate Katz-Oz told NRK.

"Certainly we're still waiting for two other parties... the Syrians and the Lebanese, to join us. If we achieve that... that will be a full answer for this very important step here," he said.

He also said he was counting on the return to the West Bank and Gaza of exiled Palestinian doctors to help meet the pressing medical needs of the Palestinians.

Dr. Shaath said security talks were delayed because Israeli negotiators were in Washington attending the summit between the Jordanian and Israeli leaders.

Security issues include Palestinian prisoners, border crossing points, and the size of Jericho.

The last round of talks stumbled over education, with the Palestinians demanding legislative and executive power in that field.

Israel wants to keep in place Jordanian and Egyptian education regulations, which are applied in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip respectively.

Dr. Shaath held intense 90-minute talks with Israeli delegation head General Danny Rothschild, then the rest of the Israeli team before his own delegation members joined him.

Details of the talks were not revealed.

King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Monday signed an accord in Washington officially ending 46 years of hos-

tility.

Dr. Shaath welcomed the joint declaration, calling it "a step towards a comprehensive peace settlement."

He said the Palestinians "always believed" that their September 13 and May 4 peace accords with Israel "were part of the comprehensive solution" to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Meanwhile Palestinian Economic minister Ahmad Qouria said Tuesday that he had held "important" talks with Israeli economic negotiators on Sunday and Monday.

Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas, who is also a former prime minister of the United Yemen, was expected to meet with foreign minister Amr Musa.

Mr. Attas will lead the separatists' delegation to Thursday's talks in Geneva with his former foes in meetings that will be attended by U.N. special envoy Lakhdar Brahimi.

The two-month war broke out May 4 after months of fending between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the southern leader, Ali Salem Al Beidh, over the pace of integration between the former North and south Yemen.

After their defeat earlier this month, the top southerners, including Mr. Beidh, fled to Oman taking with them warplanes, warships and military vehicles that Sanaa now wants back.

The south will be represented by Mr. Attas and Abdullah Al Ansar.

Mr. Attas told Reuters in Abu Dhabi on Monday that he hoped the Geneva talks could "lay down the peace" for future negotiations between the two sides.

President Saleh, a northerner, has declared a general

amnesty.

The two states merged four years ago in a move that was welcomed by the population.

But the two armies were never fully merged and the sides' politicians could not agree on the division of power between leaders from the conservative north and the socialist south.

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WHITE HOUSE DINNER: Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor with U.S. President Bill Clinton (left) and First Lady Hillary Clinton (third from right), and Israel

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and his wife Leah Rabin at the White House late Monday attending a dinner hosted by the Clintons (AFP photo)

## Car-bomb explodes near London Israeli embassy

LONDON (AP) — A bomb hidden in a car shattered the Israeli embassy Tuesday and broke windows in surrounding buildings and a royal palace. At least 15 people were treated for injuries but no one was killed, police said.

"It was such a huge, huge explosion, parts of the building just collapsed," said Rachel Gordon, who works in the embassy's press office.

A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said: "Anti-terrorist branch officers have confirmed that the explosion appears to have been caused by an explosive device in a motor vehicle." She said all the injuries were minor.

No one immediately claimed responsibility.

Scotland Yard said the car, which was destroyed, had been parked on a grassy area at the front of the embassy along Palace Green, a street that runs past the palace.

The blast came a day after Jordan and Israel officially ended decades of hostility at

a ceremony in Washington, and eight days after a bomb at a Jewish centre in Buenos Aires, Argentina killed 80 people. Officials suspect ultra-nationalists or Middle Eastern groups in that attack.

"When we heard the explosion we immediately laid down on the floor," said Amir Maimon, the second secretary at the embassy.

"Right afterwards we evacuated people from the embassy to Hyde Park and sent people home," Mr. Maimon said. "There was no panic. Everything is under control and thank God we are all alive."

Steve Partridge, who said he was about 20 metres from the explosion, said the street "was full of bits of vehicle."

"It felt like bits of glass were flying everywhere. All the windows in the surrounding buildings were smashed out," said Mr. Partridge.

Peter Seabright, who works at the Royal Gardens Hotel near the embassy, said the Israeli building had been

heavily damaged. "It was like one story was on top of the other," he said.

Police kept reporters and cameras well away from the building.

The embassy and surrounding buildings were evacuated and police cordoned off the area. Some people sat on the sidewalk of Kensington High Street, a busy commercial area, trying to keep working with pocket calculators.

Witnesses reported seeing a plume of smoke, but the London fire brigade said there was no fire.

Boaz Modai, a spokesman in the situation room at the Israeli foreign ministry said on Israel radio that three embassy employees were lightly injured.

"There is no doubt in my mind that we face a wave of extreme Islamic radical movements in the Arab-Muslim countries," Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview with NBC News in the Un-

ited States.

"They have the infrastructure all over the world, in the United States, in Europe, in Latin America," Mr. Rabin said.

Michael Whine, defence director of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, said the group had approached police last week asking that they ban parking outside Jewish buildings. He said there had been no response.

The Israeli embassy, which formerly belonged to a famous Anglo-Jewish family, the Montefiores, is protected by a high gate. Visitors are only allowed in after speaking through an intercom.

There is a police sentry box at the entrance to Palace Green and officers check all visitors. Plainclothes Israeli security officers were on the sidewalk, and uniformed London bobbies stand across the street.

Similar precautions are enforced at the consular section, at the rear of the embas-

sity.

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amnesty.

The two sides would meet on Thursday under Mr. Ibrahim, who is trying to restore peace to Yemen after the civil war.

"The object of the meeting is to explore the possibility of engaging upon a worthy and reasonable political dialogue in a spirit of mutual respect," the statement said.

The government will be represented by Abdul Karim Al Iryani, minister for planning and development, and Abdullah Saleh Al Ashtal, ambassador to the United Nations.

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In March the Israeli army had imposed a similar blockade on Yohmor and Arun, isolating for three days the 250 families who live there, in reprisal for an anti-Israeli

attack. The operation lasted nearly two hours but there were no casualties, police added.

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attack.

On Saturday Israeli troops sealed off two Lebanese villages.

Lubrani, said on Israeli military radio after Monday's attacks.

He accused Iran of supplying weapons and giving instructions to the Hezbollah aimed at undermining the Middle East peace process and charged that Syria had the means to rein in the guerrillas "if it so wishes."

According to Lebanese police, around 30 soldiers backed by a Merkava tank and bulldozer moved two kilometres north of Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon.

The soldiers built an earth embankment on the road linking Yohmor and Arun with Nabatiyah, the main town of South Lebanon, and wounded 13 soldiers, killing all 21 on board.

Mr. Endara said suspicion is focused on an unidentified victim of last week's crash who officials believe is from Lebanon. Officials in the president's office were not immediately available for comment on the report.

Panamanian investigators said in a statement late Monday that the explosion that brought down the plane originated beneath one of the plane's seats.

"Our reaction will be considered put painful for Hezbollah," said Mr. Endara, the Panamanian coordinator for South Lebanon, Uri

Yohmor residents who could not reach their village, 20 kilometres northeast of Nabatiyah, staged a sit-in outside the local office of the International Committee of the Red Cross in this market town. They issued a statement calling on international organisations to intercede with the Israelis to lift the siege.

Hizbullah was on maximum alert Tuesday.